

DAILY REPORT

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COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER PRAISES AIRLINE HANDLING OF HIJACK

OW120448Y Taipei Domestic Service in Mandarin 1200 GMT 11 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Minister of Communications Lin Chin-sheng said 11 March in the Legislative Yuan that the China Airlines hijack incident "though an unfortunate occurrence, it did not end tragically." "It did not damage, but rather it enhanced our country's prestige." Lin Chin-sheng pointed out: "China Airlines' business has not been adversely affected because of the incident. The airline's scheduled flights over the past few days were all completely booked." "The world sees many hijacking incidents, but it is a wonder that we overcame the incident within minutes. This proves that our security measures are sound and that we have the confidence of passengers," he added. "With the cooperation of the management of China Airlines," he said, "we will in the future tighten security checks of employees. We will examine their (?physical) and mental conditions as well as their emotional state."

Criminal Code May Be Revised

OW110308Y Taipei CNA in English 0232 GMT 11 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Taipei, 11 Mar (CNA)--The suspected hijacking attempt of a China Airlines Boeing 737 jetliner by a flight engineer Thursday has prompted local legal experts to recommend a revision of the current criminal code which has no regulations governing hijacking. "Hijacking is an international crime and rules governing such acts must be included in our criminal code," a reanking official of the Ministry of Justice said. He said the government would add the rules in a revised edition of the criminal code. According to the official, a hijacker would be sentenced to terms ranging from 10 years in prison to capital punishment. He said a hijacker must commandeer a plane by illegal methods, rob, or kill crew members and passengers, or force pilots to change course, landing or destination.

VICE ECONOMIC MINISTER RETURNS FROM U.S., JAPAN VISIT

OW121449Y Taipei CNA in English 1400 GMT 12 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Taipei, 12 Mar (CNA)--Vice Economics Minister Y.T. Wong returned here Sunday from his visit to the United States and Japan for negotiations on trade with officials of the two countries. He told the press at Taipei Airport upon returning that after three rounds of talks the Republic of China and the United States signed an agreement on textile trade between the two countries. The new agreement, covering a period of 5 years from 1 January 1978 to 31 December 1982, will officially become effective after ratification by the two governments and subsequent exchange of notes, he said.

The new agreement gives the Republic of China an equitable treatment as compared with similar textile agreements between the United States and other textile suppliers such as Hong Kong, Wong said. He said the country will further strengthen its trade relations with the United States and Japan--and [words indistinct] top trade partners of the Republic of China.

After conclusion of textile negotiations in the U.S., Wong left for Japan and met with Japanese External Economic Affairs Minister Nobuhiko Ushiba. During the informal talks, he said, he had urged the Japanese side to increase its imports from the Republic of China so as to narrow the Sino-Japanese trade gap heavily unfavorable to the nation.

BANK, FINANCE MINISTRY FAVOR U.S.-FRG DOLLAR MEASURES

OW140027Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0007 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--The Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan reacted favorably to the agreement reached between the United States and West Germany Monday aimed at cooperative efforts to support the dollar. They believe the measures decided will have an effect on stabilizing the exchange markets. They also believe the measures will aid in maintaining the value of the dollar not only against the West German mark but other principal currencies, such as the yen and the Swiss franc.

The Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan are highly evaluating the dollar-defense measures agreed upon not only because of the expansion in the so-called "swap arrangement" but also because of the agreement reached on U.S. sale to West Germany of "special drawing rights (SDR)" in order to purchase marks. They note that such action on the part of the U.S. is unprecedented. They welcome this as indicating the positive posture of the U.S. to defend the dollar. The U.S. presently has 2.1 billion SDR's (about 2.6 billion dollars) allocated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Part of this will be sold to West Germany for procurement of marks.

Meanwhile, Haruo Maekawa, deputy governor of the Bank of Japan, said he believed the dollar defense measures agreed on between the U.S. and West Germany will contribute to the stabilization of the economy and exchange situation of not only the two countries but of the whole world.

Commenting on the decline in the dollar on overseas foreign exchange markets immediately after the joint statement was announced by the U.S. and West Germany on measures to shore up the dollar, Maekawa said he believed this was due to the fact that too much was expected from the agreement. Although he did not know how the agreement will effect the Tokyo foreign exchange market, he said he hoped it will result in stabilizing the yen's value.

Murayama Opposed to Immediate Controls

OW140619Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0557 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--Finance Minister Tatsuo Murayama showed a negative attitude Tuesday toward immediate imposition of tighter foreign exchange controls to stem a further rise in the yen's value against the dollar. Speaking to newsmen after the day's regular cabinet meeting, he said he was surprised at the dollar's failure to gain strength despite the U.S.-West German agreement on measures to stabilize its value. But he said he did not think it wise to impose foreign exchange controls immediately. He said he wants to watch moves of the foreign exchange market for the time being before deciding on whether such controls are necessary.

BULGARIA'S PRESIDENT ZHIVKOV CONTINUES OFFICIAL VISIT

13 March Talks

AU131404Y Sofia BTA in English 1340 GMT 13 Mar 78 AU

[Text] Tokyo, 13 Mar (BTA)--The official talks between the President of the Bulgarian State Council Todor Zhivkov, and Japan's Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, started here today.

On the Bulgarian side present were: Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs; Mr Macho Papazov, chairman of the state Committee for Science and Technological Progress and chairman of the Bulgarian side of the Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation Between Bulgaria and Japan; Mr Andrey Loukanov, deputy chairman of the Ministerial Council; Mr Khristo Khristov, minister of foreign trade; Mr Milko Balev, head of the office of the State Council President of Bulgaria; and Mr Rumen Sergezov, Bulgarian ambassador to Japan. On the Japanese side the talks were attended by: Mr Sunao Sonoda, minister of foreign affairs; Mr Shintaro Abe, secretary-in-chief of the cabinet; Mr Akira Yamato, Japan's ambassador to Bulgaria, and Mr Yasushi Miyadia, director general of the Bureau for Europe and Australia with the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The talks were dedicated to bilateral relations. Discussed were issues pertaining to further development of Bulgaro-Japanese cooperation. Expressed was the bilateral wish to deepen ties in all spheres of life. Special attention was attached to expansion of economic, scientific and technological cooperation. The two sides reached concrete agreements. The talks proceeded in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

Joint Economic Committee Proposal

OW14G109Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0015 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Excerpt] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--Visiting Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov and Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda Monday afternoon agreed to step up economic interchange between the two countries. The first Japan-Bulgaria summit conference was held at 3:45 on Monday at the guest house in Akasaka.

The Bulgarian head of state and Fukuda agreed to establish a government-to-government joint committee and to exchange letters of agreement on scientific and technical cooperation. They also agreed to step up technical cooperation in agriculture and fishery and to conduct working-level consultations to study the feasibility of economic cooperation between the two countries in the future.

Japan-Bulgarian trade amounts to about 60 million dollars both ways, of which two-thirds is in Japan's favor. When the government-level economic joint committee is established, economic and trade relations between the two countries are expected to develop further.

Zhivkov and Fukuda are scheduled to hold their second summit talks on Wednesday morning at the prime minister's official residence.

Emperor Hosts Banquet

AU131528Y Sofia BTA in English 1450 GMT 13 Mar 78 AU

[Text] Tokyo, 13 Mar (BTA)--His Imperial Majesty Emperor of Japan Hirohito stated with satisfaction today the allround headway marked by Japanese-Bulgarian relations: "A delightful fact is that in recent years exchange of responsible officials was specially activated. That exchange in the economic and cultural sphere marked further headway, and the friendly relations with every year are becoming ever closer," said he at the state banquet in honour of Mr Todor Zhivkov, president of the State Council of Bulgaria.

The emperor expressed confidence that the present visit of the Bulgarian head of state will contribute to further deepening of mutual understanding between Japan and Bulgaria, to encouragement of cooperation in different spheres, which on its part will help consolidation of world peace and wellbeing of mankind.

In reply Mr Todor Zhivkov emphasized that the considerable positive experience accumulated so far in the development of Bulgaro-Japanese relations makes a good foundation for furthering bilateral cooperation. He completely shared the view of his host that the forthcoming Bulgaro-Japanese talks will yield good results and will render a new impetus to understanding and reciprocally beneficial cooperation between the two countries and the two peoples. "Developing our relations, we will contribute to the cause of peace and security, to detente and cooperation, to well-being and happiness of all people on the earth," said Mr Todor Zhivkov.

Zhivkov Hosts Reception

AM140940Y Sofia BTA in English 0835 GMT 14 Mar 78 AU

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Mar (BTA)--During the second day of the official visit of Mr Todor Zhivkov, president of the State Council of Bulgaria, to Japan, the diplomatic corps accredited in Tokyo was introduced to the Bulgarian head of state. Later on Mr Todor Zhivkov gave a reception, which proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The reception was attended by many politicians, workers of art, science and culture, many members of parliament, prominent scientists, actors, publishers, heads of political parties and presidents of the biggest Japanese companies and banks. The officials accompanying the Bulgarian head of state were also present at the reception.

All Japanese national dailies today give prominence to reports and photographs of yesterday's welcoming of Mr Todor Zhivkov, president of the Bulgarian State Council, to Japan, on the talks the Bulgarian head of state had with Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, the meeting with His Imperial Majesty Emperor Hirohito, and the official banquet given by the emperor in honour of the high guest. The papers focus attention on the agreement to set up an intergovernmental commission on economic, scientific and technological cooperation, the agreement to sign a convention on scientific and technological cooperation and another one on cooperation in agriculture and pisciculture.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT FAVORS PANAMA CANAL TREATIES

OW141253Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1241 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Excerpts] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--The Foreign Ministry said in a statement Tuesday that Japan had great interest in the future of the Panama Canal as a major user of the 82-kilometer waterway connecting the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

The statement, issued by Hideo Kagami, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Public Information Bureau, noted that Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda had sent messages of congratulations to the United States and Panama on the occasion of the signing of the new treaties. It said that "Japan continues to follow this matter with interest." "Japan welcomes the new treaties as they will contribute to the maintenance and development of international maritime traffic by ensuring equal and indiscriminatory passage to all nations," the statement added.

AUSTRALIA'S ANTHONY ARRIVES IN TOKYO 14 MARCH

OW140355Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0341 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--J. Douglas Anthony, Australian deputy prime minister and minister for national resources and overseas trade, arrived in Tokyo early Tuesday morning for a 9-day visit until 22 March.

During his stay here, he is scheduled to hold talks with Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda and other government officials as well as meet with business leaders. Subjects expected to be taken up are the problem of Australian export of iron ore and issues related with Japan-Australia trade.

Economic, Trade Discussions

OW131303V Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 13 Mar (KYODO)--Australian Deputy Prime Minister J. Douglas Anthony arrives in Japan Tuesday for a 9-day unofficial visit during which he will meet with government and business leaders to discuss the tightening of economic and trade ties between the two countries.

Officials at the Australian Embassy here said Monday that Anthony, also minister for national resources and overseas trade and commerce, would be visiting Japan for the sixth time because of the need he felt to maintain constant bilateral contacts. His previous visit was about 2 years ago. They said that Anthony would not concentrate on any single issue during his talks with Japanese ministers and leaders of trading companies, banks and industrial organizations. But he intends to take up for the discussion a wide range of subjects necessary to promote the relations between the two countries, including the problems of Japanese imports of Australian iron ore and coal, beef and other farm products and Japan's policy toward the United States, the European communities and the multilateral trade negotiations now going on in Geneva, they said.

The officials said that the Australian iron ore and coal producers were deeply concerned with possible cutback in Japanese imports of these materials stemming from the current global economic slowdown. If such cutbacks should be inevitable, the Australian producers feel they have the rights to ask for preferential treatment from Japan because, the embassy officials explained, they have developed those resources exclusively for supply to the Japanese steel industry. The Australian producers want "equitable treatment" so that none of them will have to suffer heavier damages than the others in case their exports have to be reduced, the officials said.

In discussing these problems with Japanese leaders, however, Anthony will ask for Japanese cooperation only in principle, without getting into such details as prices and volumes, the officials added. All commercial matters concerning the problems have to be dealt with on commercial levels, they said.

On beef exports to Japan, the officials said that Anthony would ask the Japanese to try to give Australian producers "predictability." Anthony will ask the Japanese leaders if it would be possible for Japan to set its import quota for beef on an annual basis instead of on a semi-annual basis as at present. This change will make it easier for the Australian beef producers to plan ahead for a longer period of time, they said.

The officials said the Australian deputy prime minister might also discuss uranium ore supplies to Japan in line with Canberra's policy of controlling the uranium production and exports in accordance with the safeguards negotiated with importing countries.

Anthony will meet Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda, International Trade and Industry Minister Toshio Komoto, Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa, External Economic Affairs Minister Nobuhiko Ushiba and Science and

Technology Agency Director General Tasaburo Kumagai. He will also meet Masayoshi Ohira, secretary general of the Liberal-Democratic Party, and leaders of the Federation of Economic Organization (Keidanren), the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and major trading firms and banks. The embassy officials said that Anthony would also be interested in hearing Fukuda's assessment of the world economic situation over the next few years.

BANGLADESH'S PRESIDENT RAHMAN TO VISIT IN APRIL

OW140641Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0612 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--The government announced Tuesday that Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman and his wife would visit Japan 5-9 April as state guests. The Bangladesh president will meet the emperor and empress and confer with Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda and other high ranking officials on economic and other relations between the two countries. Rahman and his wife will leave Osaka for home on the afternoon of 9 April after visiting Wakayama prefecture and Kyoto.

ATOMIC INDUSTRIAL FORUM CONVENTION OPENS 14 MARCH

OW140605Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0528 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--The 11th annual convention of the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum opened here Tuesday with some 800 Japanese and foreign nuclear experts participating. During the 3-day session, the participants will exchange views on ways to promote nuclear power development for peaceful use under the main theme of the "route toward harmonious development of atomic energy utilization."

Among some 80 foreign participating experts are Dr Sigvar A. Eklund, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); Andre L. Giraud, administrator-general of the French Atomic Energy Commissariat; Richard T. Kennedy, member of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and Akbar Etemad, president of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran.

The meeting opened with a speech by Hiromi Arisawa, chairman of the Atomic Industrial Forum, in which he stressed the need to enhance efforts to regain the people's faith in the development of atomic energy. To that end, he said, it is necessary to gain Diet approval of a bill for reorganization of the nation's atomic energy administrative mechanisms during the current Diet session.

Referring to international moves to impose tighter safeguard measures for the prevention of nuclear proliferation, Arisawa said this problem is currently being studied in real earnest by the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation (INFCE), an international organization to study ways to limit nuclear proliferation. All nations should await the outcome of the studies by the INFCE, Arisawa said, implicitly criticizing American moves to place tight controls on exports of nuclear power equipment unilaterally.

Following Arisawa's speech, Eklund and Giraud spoke on such problems as international outlook for nuclear power development and methods of obtaining the national consensus on nuclear development.

Referring to the growing difficulty to build nuclear powerplants due to opposition by environmentalists and other groups of people, Eklund said a solution must be found to the problem of how to dispose of highly radioactive discharges from nuclear powerplants.

In the future, he said, the top priority of studies in this respect should be given to this issue.

Meanwhile, Giraud said light-water type reactors are the most ideal reactors for preventing the use of plutonium for military purposes. The heavy-water type Candu reactors and gas-cooled Magnox reactors have the danger of producing plutonium suited for nuclear arms, he added.

ASUKATA ADDRESSES OPENING OF JSP NATIONAL CONVENTION

OW140559Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0540 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--Japan Socialist Party Chairman Ichio Asukata called on party members Tuesday to step up preparations for the next general election, saying he expected the House of Representatives to be dissolved in May. In his address to a party convention, Asukata said expansion of JSP strength in the next general election is vital if the party is to lead "people's struggles in the 1980's."

About 520 representatives attended the opening of the 3-day convention of the leading opposition party Tuesday at the Nippon Kyoiku Kaikan Hall in downtown Tokyo.

Asukata said he would visit China after the current 42d regular convention to promote conclusion of the long-pending bilateral peace and friendship treaty.

Asukata, who sprang to power last December after intraparty struggles that followed the JSP setback in the general election last July, said his party had been strengthening its solidarity. He said he was reelected in the party's first public election last month with the support of 81.4 percent of all party members. The struggle between Marxist-Leninists and moderates within the party last year was a "groping and confusion" that the party had to go through before entering the 1980's, he said.

Asukata demanded a campaign to boost JSP membership from the less than 50,000 at present to 1 million to lead the national movement in the next decade. He conceded the time was not yet ripe to reorganize the opposition forces to topple the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, and criticized moves by the middle-of-the-road parties to form a joint government with the LDP. The JSP sought to create an opposition coalition to head the government before last July's election.

Asukata also said the government of Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda had lost its chance to ride out the current economic downturn and would inevitably lead to "reactionary politics and militarism."

"A political climate will be created toward the end of the current Diet (17 May) that will lead to dissolving the House of Representatives all of a sudden," the Socialist chairman predicted. He urged party members to complete preparations for the next general election by May.

OKINAWAN RESOLUTION PROTESTS BROWN TESTIMONY ON U.S. FORCES

OW131125Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1045 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Naha, 13 Mar (KYODO)--The Okinawa prefectural assembly adopted a resolution Monday protesting U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown's recent suggestion that U.S. forces in Okinawa might be dispatched to battle areas in case of another Korean war.

The unanimously-adopted resolution, also addressed to President Jimmy Carter and Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, said such mobilization of U.S. forces could invite retaliatory attacks on Okinawa, where military bases encroach on the daily life of the people.

Brown, in congressional testimony on 22 February, said that if North Korea should attack South Korea following the withdrawal of U.S. ground troops, U.S. air and naval forces would become involved immediately and Okinawa-based U.S. Marines would be on the scene within a couple of days.

DEFENSE AGENCY REPORTS SOVIET SHIPS SIGHTED NEAR TSUSHIMA

OW130605Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0523 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Excerpt] Tokyo, 13 Mar KYODO--Two Soviet naval ships approached Japan over the weekend, apparently to obtain information on the current South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise, the Defense Agency disclosed Monday. A Maritime Self-Defense Force helicopter spotted a 3,700-ton Soviet Kanin class missile destroyer being refueled from an oiler some 12 kilometers south of Tsushima, the island between Kyushu and Korea, around noon Saturday. The two vessels then sailed north toward the Japan Sea, the agency said.

On Friday, the agency found the 1,240-ton Soviet naval survey ship Yega heading toward Tsushima Strait about 70 kilometers northwest of the Goto-Retto Islands, off north-western Kyushu.

SOVIET-JAPANESE OIL, GAS EXPLORATION OFF SAKHALIN TO RESUME

OW140649Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0613 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Excerpt] Sapporo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--Joint Russo-Japanese exploration for oil and natural gas off Sakhalin will resume soon when a drilling rig leaves a nearby port late this month and another starts in early April.

The five-year project started last year at a cost of 100 million dollars. The Sakhalin Oil Development Cooperation Company (SODECO), which represents Japanese firms taking part in the project, finances the cost on condition that the Soviet Union share the output after commercial production begins.

According to a contract concluded in January 1975 between SODECO and the Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry, commercial operation is expected to start in 1982, with 50 percent of the crude oil and almost all natural gas to be supplied to Japan.

'LITTLE PROGRESS' REPORTED IN MOSCOW SALMON FISHING TALKS

OW110204Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0015 GMT 11 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, 10 Mar (KYODO)--Japan and the Soviet Union made little progress at their talks here this week on salmon fishing on the high seas, Japanese delegation sources said Friday. A working group of experts on salmon fishing met twice this week. But both sides failed to narrow their gap, with the Russians sticking to their proposal for a ban on salmon fishing on the high seas and the Japanese contending that the Russian proposal lacked scientific grounds, the sources said. The sources said Japan would propose another session of the working group early next week to discuss ways of increasing salmon stocks, such as artificial cultivation.

GOVERNMENT TO SEEK SUSPENSION OF SOVIET ROCKET LAUNCHINGS

OW131239Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 13 Mar (KYODO)--Japan is asking the Soviet Union to suspend the scheduled launchings of meteorological rockets over the Pacific 15-24 March, the government said Monday [13 March].

The Japanese Embassy in Moscow has been ordered to make the representation to the Soviet Government because the tests could affect Japanese fishing operations, officials said.

A total of 72-83 Japanese fishing boats are expected to be in the Soviet-designated testing area for bonito and tuna fishing. The government is also informing the Soviet Government of reserving the right to claim compensation for possible damage to the fishing boats.

JSP RECEIVES PRC APPROVAL TO SEND DELEGATION 20 MARCH

OW140427Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Mar (KYODO)--The Japan Socialist Party decided Tuesday to dispatch a party delegation, led by Chairman Ichio Asukata, to China next Monday [20 March]. The decision followed a notification from the Chinese Embassy here earlier in the day that China is ready to receive a JSP delegation next Monday.

The departure of the delegation may be delayed to next Tuesday or later because the party cannot make reservations for a flight to Peking on Monday, party officials said.

The party will select other members of the delegation within Tuesday. The delegation is expected to include five or six members and stay in Peking for a week or so.

Chairman Asukata of the No 1 opposition party hopes to meet party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, Vice Chairman Teng Hsiao-ping and other leaders to exchange views on the planned Japan-China peace and friendship treaty and the Asian situation in general.

TRADE MISSION TO VISIT HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA

OW110146Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0040 GMT 11 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 11 Mar (KYODO)--The government will shortly send a trade mission to Hungary and Czechoslovakia for about 2 weeks. The mission, led by Toshiro Katayama, an adviser to the International Trade and Industry Ministry, is scheduled to leave Japan on 18 March.

The mission will be composed of about 60 experts from various organizations, including those grouping manufacturers, trading houses, department stores and supermarkets. The mission members will hold talks with Hungarian and Czech Government and industrial leaders in four groups--machinery, chemicals, food, and textile and sundry groups.

DOMESTIC, FOREIGN REACTION TO U.S.-ROK EXERCISE

13 March Operations

SK140352Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0345 GMT 14 Mar 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 Mar (KCNA)--The U.S. imperialists mobilized U.S. troops and puppet army in an "offensive operation" exercise in the whole areas immediately south of the military demarcation line from early morning March 13, according to a report.

This criminal war exercise was participated in by the "Smith unit" belonging to the U.S. 25th Infantry Division and the "Lance" missile unit which were brought from military bases outside South Korea, troops of the U.S. Second Infantry Division occupying South Korea and huge puppet troops. Warplanes of the U.S. and puppet air forces were also involved in this exercise. Synchronizing with the war game the marines which landed on the eastern coast on the 12th were ordered to "advance into inland areas."

The ongoing military exercise in South Korea shows that the U.S. imperialists are going farther to the brink of war.

The provocative military exercise of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges only invites greater indignation of the people. The U.S. imperialists must be clearly mindful that those who cling to the policy of war are bound to meet the same end as that of Hitler and Tojo and stop running riot.

DPRK Committee's Statement

OW141119Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 Mar (KCNA)--The Korean Committee of Solidarity With the World People on March 13 made public a statement denouncing the "joint South Korea-U.S. military exercise." The statement expressed the belief that the peoples of all countries of the world who love justice and peace, international organisations and solidarity organisations will raise higher their voice denouncing the new war provocation manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys and launch a more extensive international campaign to express firm solidarity with the just cause of the Korean people struggling to make the U.S. troops withdraw from South Korea and attain the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The statement said: The reckless military gamble of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets is a grave challenge to the entire Korean people and the world's revolutionary people and an open threat to peace and security in Asia and the world.

The Korean Committee of Solidarity with the World People, expressing deep apprehensions about the fact that the danger of new war is steadily increasing in our country due to the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, indicts the U.S. and South Korean war maniacs to the world people for their adventurous war provocation.

In holding the criminal war exercise which neither our people nor the world people want, the United States pursues the aim of frightening the South Korean people, who demand democracy and peaceful reunification, bringing under control the crisis of the shaking puppet rule, keeping hold on South Korea and perfecting the aggressive "U.S.-Japan-South Korea triangular military alliance system."

The statement continued: The U.S. imperialists must clearly see the revolutionary will of the Korean people and the aspiration of the world's progressive people, immediately discontinue their reckless war game and pull out of South Korea without delay, taking along all their armed forces of aggression and destruction weapons.

The Pak Chong-hui puppet clique must stop the anti-national war provocation manoeuvres at once, pay its debt to the South Korean people suffering from great miseries and step down from "power" forthwith.

The Japanese ruling quarters should ponder over the consequences that may be entailed by their dangerous attempt to get something by offering their territory as an operational and logistics base for the present war game and refrain from the criminal act of partaking in the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war.

'Offensive Attack' Phase Noted

OW141059Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 14 Mar (KCNA)--The "joint South Korea-U.S. military exercise" went over to an "offensive operation." This clearly shows that the exercise is one for carrying into practice the plan of aggressive war against the northern half of the republic the U.S. imperialist warmongers worked out, blaring that they would strike at the "hearts" of somebody and quickly conclude a war through "short warfare." NODONG SINMUN today stresses this is a signed commentary.

It says: This is all the more clearly proved by the fact that the ongoing military exercise is based on the "plan for emergency action" of the U.S. troops announced by U.S. Defence Secretary Brown at the U.S. Congress in February.

The U.S. imperialists announced that the military exercise was to "defend" South Korea from someone's "aggression." This, in actuality, is a declaration of attack on our republic.

The commentary goes on: The U.S. imperialists introduced aircraft carriers, nuclear strategic bombers and even such nuclear weapon deliverers as "Lance" missiles. This virtually is preparations for war against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The massive introduction of U.S. armed forces reminds one of the situation on the eve of war. The U.S. imperialists occupied South Korea and divided our country by "strength," and they pursue the insidious design to fix the division, provoke a new war and dominate the whole of Korea by "strength."

If they attempt to intimidate our people and get something by "strength," it is a delusion, says the commentary. It warns: If the United States persistently tries to unleash a war of aggression against the Korean people, it will only precipitate its destruction.

U.S. Proves Commitment

SK131335Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0700 GMT 13 Mar 78 SK

[Text] According to a report, U.S. Defense Secretary Brown, in a press conference on 10 March, raved that the provocative U.S.-South Korea joint exercise, which the U.S. imperialists are now waging through the mobilization of huge aggressive military forces, proves the continued U.S. defense commitment to South Korea.

On 9 March, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Holbrooke raved before the House International Relations Committee that the Korean Peninsula is a potential war area, that a sudden shift in the balance of power on the Korean Peninsula would upset the balance of power in the entire Asian area and that the United States would continue to support the South Korean puppet clique.

Such clamoring by the U.S. war maniacs, after starting the large-scale war exercise racket in South Korea on 7 March, clearly reveals their objectives in conducting this exercise. As is well known, the U.S.-South Korea joint exercise being conducted by the U.S. imperialists, is not merely an exercise for the sake of an exercise, but an attack operation simulating an all-out war against our republic. Therefore, it is an extremely dangerous war racket aimed at perfecting the plan for aggression against the north. The U.S. imperialists are more viciously inciting the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique to realize this criminal plan of theirs. The U.S. imperialists' harping on commitment and support plainly indicates their sinister intention to drive the Pak Chong-hui traitor gang to serve as frontline cannonfodder, by revitalizing this gang whom the people deserted and by strengthening the puppets' war potential. There is no need to reiterate that one of the U.S. imperialists' important intentions in bringing in various military equipment and lethal weapons to South Korea, on the pretext of the military exercise, lies in expediting the puppets' military build-up.

This shows that the U.S. imperialists are taking advantage of the signboard of troop withdrawal in concealing their military build-up and war maneuvers. This fact proves that the U.S. imperialists are not relinquishing their aggressive intention to maintain South Korea as their permanent colony and military base and, furthermore, to swallow all Korea. But this is an anachronistic delusion, which can never be realized. The times and political situation have changed. The U.S. imperialists should clearly understand that they can obtain nothing from the reckless maneuvers and war racket which they are now waging, and they should behave discreetly.

Clique Serves U.S. War Policy

SK140515Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1149 GMT 13 Mar 78 SK

[Unattributed commentary: "The Ugly Acts of the Traitor Who Does Not Care About the Nation and People"]

[Text] Because of the reckless war exercise commotion staged by the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique beginning 7 March, throughout South Korea there is now a tense atmosphere like that in war time, and South Korea has actually been turned into a battlefield.

Under the serious circumstances in which the danger of war has been added to the miseries of national division which have persisted for a third of a century, South Korean people are very concerned and are filled with indignation toward the war maniacs. At a time when the Korean people and the world peace-loving peoples are heightening their voices of opposition and denouncing the reckless war commotion staged by the U.S. imperialists, the thoroughly traitorous Pak Chong-hui clique is offering the nation's land as a war exercise ground for the aggressors and joining the dangerous playing with fire by its master. Thus, the clique has fully revealed its true color as a servant of the war-maniac master.

Seeking a way to maintain power for a prolonged period by permanently holding the aggressive forces of the U.S. imperialists in South Korea and perpetuating the nation's division, the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique is giving wide publicity to the powder-reeking war exercise by mobilizing government-sponsored propaganda means and feverishly boosting the war atmosphere. The clique is also constantly clamoring that the ongoing military exercise is for the purpose of checking the U.S.-South Korea joint maneuver capability as a contingency and is a warning to someone.

Furthermore, treating as a savior the U.S. war maniacs who sneaked into South Korea to command the war exercise commotion, the traitors are rendering every service to the U.S. forces and are even committing the shameful act of holding welcoming ceremonies by mobilizing South Korean residents. This is a cowardly and disgusting act that can be committed only by traitors such as the Pak Chong-hui clique, which is trying to prolong its life and power under the aegis of the aggressive forces of the U.S. imperialists.

The Pak Chong-hui puppet clique is upholding the aggression and war policy of the U.S. imperialists, offering South Korea as their colony and military base and furnishing all the human and material resources of South Korea for the war objectives of its master. Furthermore, the clique has repeatedly committed the treacherous act of actively supporting and joining every war adventure of the U.S. imperialists.

When the U.S. imperialists were threatening us by concentrating huge aggressive forces in our country's waters and in bases in South Korea on the occasion of the Pueblo, EC-121 and Panmunjom incidents, the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique was hellbent on supporting these actions, saying that they were welcomed and that a disciplinary measure must be taken against the North and so on. In addition, the clique openly clamored that it would welcome another Korean war by the United States and so on. When foreign aggressors threatened the people, the clique welcomed the action and tried again to engulf the fatherland in the flames of war. Such acts cannot be committed by true Koreans.

The Pak Chong-hui clique is offering the nation's land as a battlefield for the aggressors and furnishing puppet forces and even Homeland Reserve Forces as a shield for the U.S. imperialists.

The Pak Chong-hui puppet clique is a ring of traitors and war maniacs which is seeking a way to prolong its life in faithfully serving the aggression and war policy of the U.S. imperialists. To prolong power, it does not hesitate to impose on the South Korean people the fate of being cannonfodder for the U.S. imperialists and to immerse the fatherland in the flames of war.

The Pak Chong-hui puppet clique will gain nothing from being hellbent on serving the war policy of its U.S. masters. History proves that without exception, those who depended on outside forces, betrayed the nation and people and were hellbent on pursuing the imperialists' policy of aggression and war came to ruin.

The Pak Chong-hui puppet clique must look squarely at the situation, act with discretion and immediately abandon the reckless war commotion.

Soviet Army Paper

SK140340Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0334 GMT 14 Mar 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, March 14 (KCNA)--The Soviet paper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA branded the joint military exercise of the U.S. forces and "South Korean Army" dubbed "Team Spirit 78" as a large-scale military provocation against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, according to a report.

The paper noted: Contrary to the advertisement of the U.S. press media, the U.S. policy toward Korea is not for peace and security. The pledges of the U.S. Administration to withdraw its troops from South Korea are, in fact, a trick to redeploy its forces in this region, the paper said, and continued:

The U.S. Defence Department follows the policy of using South Korea as a military bridgehead and ground for joint military rehearsal with the South Korean puppets. To this end, the clamorous war din in South Korea is camouflaged with the lie about "threat from the North" and the provocative acts are described as "retaliatory steps." But, even the Americans do not believe it. As Professor of the Harvard University Cohen, American specialist in Asian political affairs, pointed out, "it cannot be said to be reasonable" to try to justify the "policy" of South Korea, harping on "threat from the North." According to him, what threatens peace in the Korean peninsula is the "suppressive policy" of the South Korean "regime."

In February this year the bosses of the U.S. military stated at the U.S. Congress that they would markedly expand the demonstration of U.S. military strength in South Korea and more frequently conduct it. The ongoing military exercise "Team Spirit 78" is a concrete expression of this dangerous policy.

PEOPLE'S DAILY Commentary

OW131211Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, March 13 (KCNA)--The Chinese paper PEOPLE'S DAILY on March 11, in a commentary headlined "Blatant War Provocation," said that the "joint South Korea-U.S. military exercise" started by U.S. imperialism and the Pak Chong-hui clique is a blatant war provocation against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people and a grave menace to peace and security in the Korean Peninsula and the rest of Asia.

The paper noted that the U.S. Government reinforced the military strength of the Pak Chong-hui clique under the smokescreen of "troop withdrawal."

It said: The joint military exercise is also intended to boost the morale of the Pak Chong-hui clique and intimidate the Korean people with military might, aggravating tension in the Korean peninsula and obstructing Korean reunification.

Under the pretext of "threat of southward aggression," the Pak Chong-hui clique has intensified fascist suppression of the South Korean people, actively engaged in arms expansion and deliberately aggravated tension, in the hope of getting more U.S. "aid," keeping U.S. troops in South Korea and maintaining its fascist rule.

The paper stressed: The perverted action of the United States and the Pak Chong-hui clique can never stem the historic current of the Korean people's independent and peaceful reunification of their fatherland. Any attempt to threaten the Korean people with any "military force" and obstruct the reunification of Korea is but a day dream.

The reunification of Korea is a strong national desire of the entire Korean people. No foreign force has the right to interfere with the internal affairs of Korea. The U.S. Government must face reality squarely, stop its aggression and intervention in Korea, end its war provocation against the Korean people, dismantle the "UN Command" and withdraw all its armed forces from South Korea in accordance with the resolution adopted at the 30th UN General Assembly and let the Korean people themselves solve the question of Korean reunification.

MEETING COMMEMORATES 1933 WANGJAESAN CONFERENCE

Leader Attendance Noted

OW120947Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0838 GMT 12 Mar 78 OW

[Excerpt] Pyongyang, 12 Mar (KCNA)--A central report meeting marking the 45th anniversary of the Wangjaesan meeting organized and guided in person by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was held yesterday at the February 8 House of Culture. Set up with due respect on the platform was a portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and our people.

The meeting hall was packed with functionaries of party and government bodies and other organs, working people in the city and soldiers of the Korean People's Army. Invited to the report meeting were foreign diplomatic envoys in Pyongyang.

The platform was taken up by Comrades O Chin-u, Yi Chong-ok, So Chol, Yim Chun-chu, O Paek-yong, Kim Chung-nin, Kye Ung-tae, Pak Su-tong, Ho Tam, Chong Chun-ki, Kim Hwan, Hwang Chang-yop, Chon Chang-chol and Chong Tong-chol; leading functionaries of party and working people's organizations and anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters and generals of the People's Army.

A report was made at the meeting by Comrade Gen So Chol, member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and director of the General Political Department of the Korean People's Army.

So Chol Address

SK120400Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0804 GMT 11 Mar 78 SK

[Report by "Comrade General So Chol, member of the Political Committee of the KWP Central Committee and director of the KPA General Political Department at a "central report meeting" held at the 8 February House of Culture in Pyongyang, commemorating the 45th anniversary of the Wangjaesan meeting--live]

[Excerpts] Comrades: Today we observe the 45th anniversary of the historic Wangjaesan meeting at a time when the entire party, all soldiers and the people are conducting a movement for all-out advance in implementing the grand second 7-year plan, holding high the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and the party Central Committee's letter to all party members. [applause]

On 11 March 1933 the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song who had organized a revolutionary armed unit, came to Onsong and organized the Wangjaesan meeting, personally guiding the work of revolutionary organizations. This became a turning point in expanding and developing the anti-Japanese armed struggle at home and abroad under the banner of chuche. [applause] Marking this significant day, all party members and workers emotionally recall the immortal achievements of the great leader who completed the historic cause of fatherland liberation and gave our people today's prosperity, happiness, dignity and honor by leading the Korean revolution to endless upsurges. They are filled with burning resolve to complete the leaders' revolutionary cause of chuche.

Thanks to the great leader's wise leadership and combat spirit demonstrated during the difficult anti-Japanese struggle, our people achieved the historic fatherland's liberation victory, crushing the Japanese imperialists. [applause]

However, our people's revolutionary cause has not yet been completed. Lying ahead is the task of reunifying the fatherland and attaining national independence. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught: Reunifying the divided land is the supreme national cause, the most noble revolutionary task facing our party and people.

Due to the occupation of South Korea by U.S. imperialists, the Korean people have been suffering national split for more than 30 years. Having lived on one land as a single nation, they will never allow our country to remain divided and our sovereignty violated.

Since the first day the country was divided into north and south due to the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea, our party and the government of the republic on many occasions advanced reasonable policies for reunifying the fatherland independently on democratic principles and by peaceful means, and have struggled persistently to fulfill them. In recent years we have advanced many just and reasonable proposals, acceptable to anyone, in accordance with the three principles and 5-point policy for fatherland reunification unfolded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Due to the scheme by domestic and foreign splittists, however, our proposals and policies have not been fulfilled, and more grave obstacles obstruct the path to the fatherland's reunification.

Despite the unanimous desire of our people and the world peace-loving peoples and their active efforts, failure to attain the country's reunification and the continued national division are totally due to the policy of the South Korean puppets and U.S. imperialists for freezing the division. The South Korean puppets have opposed reunification in every way clinging to foreign forces and refusing our just and reasonable reunification proposals.

The South Korean puppet clique is intensifying fascist oppression in order to freeze the country's division, and to continuously offer South Korea as a colony and military base for the U.S. imperialists, thus preserving their rule with U.S. support. It is also perpetrating the treasonous, treacherous act of selling the country and nation to foreign forces, in collusion with them.

The traitor Pak Chong-hui puppet clique is scheming to create "two Koreas" by trampling the agreements in the North-South joint communique and perpetuating the state of division. At the same time, it is further accelerating war exercise rackets against us, thus heightening tension in this land.

The traitor Pak Chong-hui clique has introduced more weapons of mass destruction and military equipment from foreign countries under the war-like slogans of "balance of power", "allout security" and "cultivation of national strength" on the one hand, and on the other is dashing along the road of war and division by instigating confrontation against us among the South Korean people while talking about the "impossibility of reunification" and "advantages of division."

Due to the frantic war exercise rackets and unprecedented suppression by the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique, South Korea today is daily filled with powder-reeking smoke. Many patriots are arrested, detained and killed every day. All facts clearly prove that so long as the traitorous Pak Chong-hui clique exists in South Korea its people cannot escape today's misfortune and suffering, and peace and peaceful reunification for Korea cannot be contemplated.

The Pak Chong-hui puppet clique's treasonous, treacherous acts and schemes for war receive active support from the United States and are based on the U.S. imperialists' strategy for Korea. Bowing to the strong demand of the Korean and world people, the United States now talks about withdrawing its troops from South Korea. However, it is in fact increasing its forces there and bolstering the South Korean puppet clique with more military aid, thus driving it to new military adventures.

The United States has long been bringing modern lethal weapons and materiel into South Korea to accelerate preparations for a new war. Furthermore on 7 March it began conducting a South Korea-U.S. joint operational exercise--the largest since the Korean armistice. For this exercise the United States has already brought in massive U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force units including ships, airplanes, rockets and tanks from military bases on the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, the Japanese mainland, Okinawa and the Philippines.

This military exercise, joined by all services and branches of the U.S. and South Korean armed forces, comprises ground operations, amphibious landings and air attacks simulating an attack against the northern half of the republic. The gravity of the situation is reflected in the fact that this war exercise is being conducted in areas close to the military demarcation line in an atmosphere of actual warfare, with the northern half of the republic as the simulated target of attack.

The U.S. imperialists are kicking up war rackets every day by concentrating U.S. forces from the U.S. mainland and the Pacific as well as the South Korean puppet army in the middle and western sectors of the front between the demilitarized zone and Seoul. This vividly reveals that this military exercise is an extremely dangerous playing with fire directed against the northern half of the republic.

Due to the indiscreet war racket by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, an atmosphere of terror prevails in South Korea, our country's situation has grown more tense and Asian peace and security have been threatened.

Given the firm desire of the Korean people and the world peace-loving peoples for peace in Korea and Korea's peaceful reunification, why are the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppet clique staging a powder-reeking military exercise and bringing the situation close to the brink of war? The reason is clear; despite the U.S. imperialists' clamor that their frantic military exercise commotion is intended protect South Korea from the threat of southward invasion, this commotion is actually intended to threaten the South Korean people, hamper Korea's peaceful reunification and continue military fascist rule in South Korea. Another purpose is to start a new war of invasion in Korea. [applause] This is a serious threat and atrocious provocation against us.

The new war maneuver of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique is not only an open challenge to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, but a grave violation of the desire of the honest peoples of the world for peace in Korea and Korea's peaceful reunification. We sternly denounced these criminal maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppets who are hellbent on new war preparations, aggravating tension in Korea. [applause]

The war commotion of the U.S. imperialists are staging in South Korea reveals the aggressive nature of imperialism and the aggressive ambition of the U.S. imperialists who try to permanently occupy South Korea.

All facts clearly show that the constant U.S. clamor about withdrawing its ground troops from South Korea is nothing but an attempt to mislead world opinion and to camouflage their new war preparations. What the U.S. imperialists truly want in Korea is not peace but war; not reunification but division. If the United States tries to frighten our people and accomplish something through a war commotion, this is a foolish act.

If the U.S. imperialists dare ignite a new war in Korea, ignoring the unceasing denunciations of the Korean and world peace-loving peoples, they will not escape due punishment and will accomplish nothing but their own ruin. [applause]

History proves that without exceptions, those who cling to a policy of invasion and war are consumed in the flames of their own war. Hitler's fate was an example of this, and so was that of Mussolini and Tojo. If the U.S. imperialists act recklessly and continue clinging to the policy of war, they will not escape the fate of Hitler and Tojo. [applause]

The Korean people cherish peace. However, if the U.S. imperialists misinterpret our patient peace-loving efforts as a sign of weakness and ignite a new war of invasion against us, all Korean people and Korean People's Army officers and men, firmly uniting as one, will deal the enemy an annihilating blow and thoroughly destroy it. [applause]

We have always responded with resolute counterattacks to aggressive attempts to violate our nation's security and dignity.

The United States must look squarely at the trend of the times, immediately stop the reckless war commotion running counter to the demand of the times, and withdraw all aggressive forces and lethal weapons from South Korea in accordance with the UN resolution and its own pledge. [applause]

In response to the unchanging demand of the South Korean people, the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique must relinquish the yusin fascist dictatorship and abandon the traitorous scheme to prolong its rule with the support of outside forces--giving away half the nation's land as a colony and military base of the U.S. imperialists and perpetuating the nation's division. [applause]

If through fascist oppression and intensified war maneuvers the South Korean puppet clique tries to dampen the fighting spirit of the South Korean people, who are struggling for democratization of the society and the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification, the clique will face stronger resistance from the people. The clique should remember this.

Japan is actually participating in the ongoing war exercise by furnishing military bases for the U.S. aggressive forces.

The reactionary Japanese ruling circles must not run counter to the interests of the Korean and Japanese peoples and must not commit the crime of furnishing Japanese territory as an advance, logistics and attack base for aggression against Korea by U.S. forces. [applause]

Because of the nation-splitting, new-war maneuvers of the domestic and foreign splittists, the situation is extremely strained in our country and our people's reunification cause is encountering more serious obstacles. No one who values the destiny of the nation and people can sit idly by while reunification is hampered by outside forces and half the nation's territory is being ruthlessly trampled. One cannot be impassive before the nation's present situation.

Korea cannot be divided in two; it must be reunified. [applause]

We will not tolerate any scheme to perpetuate the nation's division and create "two Koreas." [applause]

South Koreans from all walks of life must firmly unite and dauntlessly rise in a national struggle to smash the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists, to eliminate the danger of new war, to overthrow the fascist "yusin" dictatorial regime of the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique and to attain the nation's independent and peaceful reunification. [applause]

With the active support and encouragement of the progressive world peoples, all Korean people of the north and south will check and frustrate the "two Koreas" plot and schemes for a new war of the domestic and foreign splittists and attain the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland without fail. [applause]

Comrades: Today we face the glorious but heavy task of attaining the heights of the second 7-year plan ahead of schedule and achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland at an early date, upholding the militant tasks the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song advanced in his New Year message this year and the tasks set forth in the letter of the party Central Committee to all party members.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught: The entire nation and all the people must launch a struggle to implement the second 7-year plan; an all-out movement must be waged to attain the lofty heights of the new prospective plan.

A decisive guarantee for victory in the all-out movement to carry out the new prospective plan is to more firmly establish the unitary ideological system of the party throughout the party and society and to consolidate our revolutionary ranks by all means. All party members and workers must more firmly arm themselves with the revolutionary ideology of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and make themselves true chuche-type communist revolutionaries who carry out the leader's instructions and party policy unconditionally and to the end.

While consolidating the brilliant achievements won in the first battle of the all-out movement, we must continue our vigorous march and mark new innovations and miracles in all sectors of the national economy. Further fanning the flames of the speed battle, all sectors and units of the national economy must establish the revolutionary spirit of invariably fulfilling quotas on time.

Self-reliance is a militant banner which we must always uphold. With the revolutionary spirit of Paektu and the militant self-reliance with which the anti-Japanese guerillas produced the "Yongil bomb" and other weapons with their bare hands to destroy the enemy, all working people must break through difficulties and obstacles by themselves and accelerate production and construction, fully mobilizing available resources and potential. Through vigorously continuing the three revolutions--ideological, technical and cultural--we must wipe out all obsolete and backward things and make the flames of popular heroism and collective innovation rise furiously on all fronts of socialist construction.

With ardent support for the South Korean people who are waging a bloody struggle, we must accelerate revolution and construction, further consolidate the might of the northern half of the republic and defend the socialist fatherland as a fortress by always maintaining an alert and mobilized state of high vigilance.

As in the past, upholding the revolutionary banner of anti-imperialism and independence and uniting with the peoples of the socialist nations and with the peoples of all nations who support independence, we will continue waging a persistent struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for peace, democracy, national independence and victory in the socialist and communist cause. [applause]

Our revolutionary road remains difficult and rough, but victory is surely ours. [applause] Nothing can block the future of our people who are marching toward a just cause under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause] Let us all firmly rally around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and wage a more vigorous struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland and for fulfillment of the chuche revolutionary cause. [applause] Long live the great leader of our party and people, Comrade Kim Il-song! [applause]

VICE PRESIDENT PAK SONG-CHOL RETURNS HOME

Visits Tanzania 4-9 Mar

OW121027Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0850 GMT 12 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, March 12 (KCNA)--The party and government delegation of our country headed by Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and vice-president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited Tanzania between March 4 and 9, according to a report.

On March 6, the head of the party and government delegation called on Julius K. Nyerere, president of the United Republic of Tanzania. He courteously conveyed a personal letter of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to the president.

Expressing deep thanks for the personal letter of the great leader, the president asked the head of the delegation to convey his heartfelt greetings to His Excellency President Kim Il-song.

Saying that there was no change in Tanzania's support to the reunification of Korea, the Tanzanian president voiced full support to the policy of national reunification advanced by the great leader.

The president asked the head of the delegation to convey to His Excellency President Kim Il-song that Tanzania recognizes only the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and this stand is unshakable.

Earlier, on March 4, the Revolutionary Party and Government of Tanzania arranged a banquet in honour of the party and government delegation of our country at the presidential palace.

Present at the banquet were Tanzanian Vice-President Mwinyi Aboud Jumbe, Prime Minister Edward M. Sokoine and his wife, Chief Executive Secretary of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania Pius Msekwa, and ministers of the cabinet and personages concerned.

The banquet was addressed by Tanzanian Vice-President Mwinyi Aboud Jumbe and DPRK Vice-President Pak Song-chol.

The Tanzanian vice-president said that the visit of the delegation was another demonstration of the bonds of friendship between the two peoples.

He stressed: Thanks to the wise leadership of the great leader and the chuche idea founded by him, Korea, a socialist country, has achieved wonderful successes in the fields of industry and agriculture.

Referring to his visit to Korea, the Tanzanian vice-president said that he had been received by the respected and beloved leader and taught a lot of things by him, and expressed thanks to him for this.

The attendants of the banquet toasted the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the good health and long life of His Excellency President Julius K. Nyerere, the outstanding leader of the Tanzanian people.

On March 5 the delegation toured Zanzibar by special plane. That day the delegation visited army units, the revolution museum and rural villages and saw an art performance.

On March 6 talks were held between the party and government delegation of our country and the party and government delegation of Tanzania.

Present there on our side were all the members of the delegation and the DPRK ambassador to Tanzania. Present on the Tanzanian side were Tanzanian Vice-President Mwinyi Aboud Jumbe, Prime Minister Edward M. Sokoine, ministers, a vice-minister and the Tanzanian ambassador to our country.

Discussed at the talks were the problem of further strengthening and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries and other problems of common concern.

The talks proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The delegation visited the natural zoo on March 7 and 8.

Arrives in Pakistan

SK130442Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 13 Mar 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 13 Mar (KCNA)--A government delegation of our country headed by Vice-President Pak Song-chol arrived in Islamabad on March 10 for a visit to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, according to a report.

The delegation was met at the airport by Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, head of the government and chief martial law administrator of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Secretary General-in-Chief Gulham Ishaque, Secretary General of Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi, members of the Advisory Council and ranking officers of the military.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and the ambassador and staffers of the DPRK Embassy in Pakistan and their families were on hand.

The government delegation was accompanied to the guest house by the head of the government and chief martial law administrator.

Calls on Zia-ul-Haq

OW131159Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, March 13 (KCNA)--Vice-President Pak Song-chol, head of the government delegation of our country, on March 10 called on Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, head of the government and chief martial law administrator of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, according to a report.

The head of the delegation courteously conveyed a personal letter of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to the head of the government and chief martial law administrator.

He expressed deep thanks for the personal letter and asked the head of the delegation to convey his heartfelt regards to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

He said that the Pakistani people revere His Excellency Kim Il-song as the greatest man. It is an honour for us to deepen relations with Korea led by President Kim Il-song, he added.

Expressing full support to the policy of national reunification advanced by the great leader, he also asked the head of the delegation to convey to President Kim Il-song that Pakistan stands firm on the side of the Korean people in the struggle for the reunification.

The conversation proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Present on the occasion were the members of the delegation and the ambassador of our country to Pakistan. Also present were the additional political secretary and a director general of the Foreign Ministry of Pakistan.

Meets With Chaudhry

OW131203Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, March 13 (KCNA)--Vice-President Pak Song-chol, head of the government delegation of our country, on March 10 called on Fazal Elahi Chaudhry, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, according to a report.

The head of the delegation courteously conveyed the greetings of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to the president.

The president courteously inquired after the health of the great leader and asked the head of the delegation to convey his sincerest regards to the great leader.

The Pakistani people deeply revere Comrade Kim Il-song as the great leader, the president said, and stated: Korea owes all her successes entirely to the wise leadership of the great leader. He expressed firm support and solidarity for our people in the struggle for national reunification.

The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Present on the occasion were the members of the government delegation and the ambassador of our country to Pakistan. On hand were Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, head of the government and chief martial law administrator of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and a director general of the Foreign Ministry.

Holds Talks, Attends Banquets

SK140420Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0403 GMT 14 Mar 78 SK

[Excerpt] Pyongyang, March 14 (KCNA)--The government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on a visit to Pakistan had talks with the government delegation of Pakistan on March 10, according to a report.

Present at the talks on our side were the members of the delegation headed by Vice President Pak Song-chol and the DPRK ambassador to Pakistan and on the Pakistani side were Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, head of the government and chief martial law administrator of Pakistan, the secretary general-in-chief, the marital law chief of staff and advisor in charge of organizations, the secretary general of foreign affairs, and other personages concerned.

Discussed at the talks were the problem of further strengthening and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries and other problems of common concern.

The talks passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, head of the government and chief martial law administrator of Pakistan, arranged a banquet that evening in honor of the DPRK Government delegation.

The banquet was addressed by the head of the government and chief martial law administrator of Pakistan and the head of the DPRK Government delegation.

The head of the government and chief martial law administrator said: We believe that the Korean people under the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song will certainly realize their legitimate desire though obstacles are lying on the road ahead.

Noting that the government and people of Pakistan have consistently supported the Korean people's struggle for the reunification of the country, he went on: Unless the Korean problem is solved, the factor of tension and instability in Asia will not be removed.

Pakistan takes the firm stand that Korea should be reunified in an independent and peaceful way free from foreign interference. We will not support any policy or proposal designed to keep the Korean nation split forever.

He also expressed the belief that the daily developing close relations of cooperation between the DPRK and Pakistan would contribute to world peace and progress.

The attendants of the banquet toasted the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the good health and long life of Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, head of the government and chief martial law administrator of Pakistan.

While the banquet was on, "Song of General Kim Il-song" was played in the banquet hall.

The banquet proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

On March 12, Pakistan President Fazal Elahi Chaudhry hosted a luncheon at the presidential palace in honor of the DPRK Government delegation.

Present there were the head of the government and chief martial law administrator of Pakistan and other personages concerned.

The attendants of the luncheon raised glasses to the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the good health and long life of Pakistani President Fazal Elahi Chaudhry and Head of the Government and Chief Martial Law Administrator of Pakistan Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

During the luncheon, a military band struck up "Song of General Kim Il-song."

It proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

On March 11 and 12, the delegation visited a factory and a hydro-power station in Pakistan.

On the evening of March 12, Vice-President Pak Song-chol, head of the DPRK Government delegation, gave a banquet.

At the banquet speeches were made by the head of the DPRK Government delegation and the head of the government and chief martial law administrator.

Stops in Urumchi

SK140025Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2210 GMT 13 Mar 78 SK

[Text] After visits to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the Republic of Zambia, the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Madagascar and the United Republic of Tanzania, the DPRK party and government delegation headed by Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Committee of the KWP Central Committee and vice president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, returned to Pyongyang on 13 March by a special plane. The delegation also visited the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The delegation was received at the airport by comrades Yi Chong-ok, Yim Chun-chu, Kye Ung-tae and Chon Chang-chol and functionaries concerned (Chae Si-chong), (Kim Yong-su) and Kil Chae-kyong. Also meeting the delegation were Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Anwar Said and Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Lu Chih-hsien.

The delegation had left Pakistan on 13 March. The flags of our country and Pakistan were flying at the airport. After the playing of the national anthems of our country and Pakistan, the Pakistani army, air and naval honor guard were reviewed. Seeing the delegation off at the airport were Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, head of the government and chief martial law administrator of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; Gulham Ishaque Khan; secretary general; Agha Shahi, secretary of foreign affairs, members of the Advisory Council and high-ranking officers of the royal palace. [as heard] The DPRK ambassador and staff of the DPRK Embassy in Pakistan and representatives of foreign missions of many nations were also at the airport.

On the way home, the delegation stopped over at Urumchi in China. The delegation was met and seen off at Urumchi by Wang Feng, chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region, and functionaries concerned.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATION VISITS NEPAL 3-8 MARCH

Meets Prime Minister, Attends Banquet

OW081251Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 8 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, March 8 (KCNA)--The government delegation of our country headed by Vice-President Kang Yang-uk on a visit to the Kingdom of Nepal paid a courtesy call on Kirti Nidhi Bista, prime minister of Nepal, on March 3, according to a report.

A conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere on the occasion.

On the same day, talks were held between the government delegations of our country and Nepal. Present at the talks on our side were the members of the government delegation. Attending it on the opposite side were the Nepalese prime minister, foreign minister and finance minister and personages concerned.

Views were exchanged there on the question of strengthening and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Nepal and other problems of mutual concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

On March 3, Prime Minister of Nepal Kirti Nidhi Bista hosted a banquet in honour of the government delegation of our country. Present at the banquet were Nepalese foreign minister and other ministers, state ministers, the president of the Supreme Court, procurator general, members of the State Council, members of the National Panchayat and former prime ministers.

"Song of General Kim Il-song" and other Korean songs were being played before the banquet began.

The Nepalese prime minister and Vice-President Kang Yang-uk made speeches at the banquet.

In his speech the Nepalese prime minister expressed the belief that the current visit of the delegation would make a great contribution to further strengthening the bonds of friendship existing between the two countries.

We, he said, are following with deep interest the great successes made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in all fields of state building by embodying the chuche idea under the wise leadership of the great leader His Excellency President Kim Il-song.

He declared: "We have always supported the struggle of the Korean people to reunify the country peacefully without any interference from outside. We will respect and continue to support the desire of the Korean people for peaceful reunification in the future, too."

The attendants of the banquet drank toasts to the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and to the good health and long life of the King of Nepal Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev.

The banquet proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

On March 4, the Nepalese prime minister paid a return call on the government delegation of our country. Saying that the Korean people owe their happy life to the chuche philosophy founded by the great leader President Kim Il-song, the prime minister referred to the development of the friendly relations between the two countries.

The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere. On the same day the delegation laid a wreath before the martyrs memorial and saw old palaces in Katmandu.

Calls on King

OWO91019Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 9 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 9 Mar (KCNA)--Vice President Kang Yang-uk, head of the government delegation of our country, on a visit to Nepal recently paid a call on Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, king of the Kingdom of Nepal, according to a report from Katmandu.

The head of the delegation courteously conveyed cordial regards and a personal letter of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to the king.

The king inquired after the health of the great leader, asking: "How is respected His Excellency President Kim Il-song?" He asked the head of the delegation to convey his sincere greetings to the great leader. He expressed deep thanks for the cordial regards and the personal letter of the great leader.

Saying that "we are well informed of the great achievements made by your people in all the social, economic and cultural fields under the energetic leadership of the great leader His Excellency Kim Il-song," the king expressed the belief that the freindship between the two countries would grow deeper with each passing day.

The conversation proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Present there were the members of the delegation and the ambassador of our country to Nepal. The Nepalese prime minister, foreign minister and secretary of the royal palace were on hand.

Further Activities

SK110430Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0350 GMT 11 Mar 78 SK

[Excerpts] Pyongyang, 11 Mar (KCNA)--The government delegation of our country headed by Vice-President Kang Yang-uk stayed in Nepal between March 3 and 8.

On March 5, it was invited to appreciate an art performance specially prepared by Nepalese artists in its honour. Seeing the performance in its company were Nepalese Prime Minister Kirti Nidhi Bista and the secretary for foreign affairs and other personages concerned.

On March 6, the head of the delegation arranged a banquet, which was addressed by the head of the delegation and the Nepalese prime minister.

The attendants drank toasts to the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and to the good health and long life of Nepalese King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev.

During its stay in Nepal the delegation went round historic remains and a museum and toured local districts.

It left Katmandu on March 8 upon conclusion of its visit to Nepal.

KONG CHIN-TAE, DELEGATION VISIT BURMA, SINGAPORE

Leave Rangoon 25 February

SK100754Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0100 GMT 6 Mar 78 SK

[Text] According to a report, a DPRK Government delegation led by Comrade Kong Chin-tae concluded its visit to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma and left Rangoon on 25 February.

It was seen off at the airport by Burmese Minister of Health U Kyi Maung, who is concurrently serving as minister of information, Minister of Culture U Aye Maung, director of the general political bureau of the foreign ministry, and functionaries concerned. Also on hand at the airport were the DPRK ambassador to Burma and embassy personnel.

Holds Talks in Singapore

SK110440Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0344 GMT 11 Mar 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 Mar (KCNA)--The government delegation of our country headed by Comrade Kong Chin-tae visited Singapore, according to a report.

Upon arrival in Singapore on March 6, it was met at the airport by Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs A. Rahim Ishak and personages concerned of Singapore. Present at the airport were the ambassador and staffers of the DPRK Embassy in Singapore.

On March 6, the head of the delegation met Sinnathamby Rajaratnam, minister of foreign affairs of Singapore. On the occasion views were exchanged on the question of developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries and matters of common concern.

The talks took place in a friendly atmosphere.

During the visit the delegation inspected a port and shipyard in Singapore, the Standardization and Industry Institute and an iron and steel works.

The Singapore foreign minister hosted a banquet at the presidential palace on March 7 in honour of the government delegation of our country.

The delegation left Singapore on March 8. It was seen off at the airport by A. Rahim Ishak, senior minister of state for foreign affairs of Singapore, and other personages concerned and the ambassador and staffers of the DPRK Embassy in Singapore.

Stops in Peking

SK110445Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0347 GMT 11 Mar 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 Mar (KCNA)--The government delegation of our country headed by Comrade Kong Chin-tae returned home on March 10 by special plane after a visit to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, Malaysia and the Republic of Singapore.

It was met at the airport by Comrade Chong Chun-ki and personages concerned Chong Song-nam and Kim Sok-chin. Present at the airport were Chinese Ambassador Lu Chih-hsien, Pakistan Ambassador Anwar Said and Indonesian Ambassador Hardi Djamian to our country.

The delegation stopped over in Peking yesterday on its way home.

PAPERS CONDEMN PROPOSED JAPANESE MOVIE ON KOREA

'Anticommunist False Propaganda'

OW111145Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1119 GMT 11 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 Mar (KCNA)--NODONG SINMUN Saturday [11 March] lashes at the plan of the Japanese motion picture company "Toho Film" to produce an anti-communist war movie "Inchon" against our country, financed by the "Unification Church" and the "International Anticommunist League," both notorious anticommunist organisations.

It is said that the movie would maliciously insult our people's army, while painting wolfish U.S. imperialism as "savior" and "knight for freedom." And its scenarist is an ultrarightist of the United States who wrote the script of the war-inciting movie "Green Berets." The "Unification Church", which backs up its production, is a group of fanatic anticommunist plotters. It is a despicable detached force of the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique and a group of mountebanks who soiled their hands with the bribery scandal of the puppet clique in the United States. The "International Anticommunist League", which has joined in the film making, is likewise an organisation of anticommunist conspirators. They are as like as two peas. And the U.S. motion picture "company" which is claimed to have entrusted the production of the movie "Inchon" to the "Toho Film" of Japan is a bogus company which the managing editor of the organ of the "International Anticommunist League" framed up overnight in Los Angeles, the U.S.A., to make it appear that the movie would be a production of an American company.

In a signed commentary the paper points out that the proposed movie "Inchon" is, at all points, one for anticommunist false propaganda, which is directed against our republic and designed to incite the war fever of the aggressors, as its content and the background of its making indicate. It is clear that this reactionary film has been planned to defend the U.S. imperialists' permanent occupation of South Korea and the "yusin" fascist dictatorship of the South Korean puppet clique and their brutal suppression of the people, it declares.

In this film, the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique seek to preach the "impossibility" of Korean reunification and the "benefit" of the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule over South Korea and thereby attain "cross-recognition" and "admission to the UN" and create "two Koreas" at whatever cost.

The background of the making of the movie presents a vivid picture of an aspect of the conspiracy and adhesion among the United States, Japan and the South Korean puppets to bar the reunification of Korea and create "two Koreas."

The plan to produce this film for false propaganda is vicious enough, because it is intended to insult the Korean people and sling mud at the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and distort the consistent stand and principle of our republic for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, while beautifying the U.S. imperialists' line of division and war against the Korean people and justifying the U.S. colonial occupation of South Korea and Japan's intrusion there. It is an intolerable provocation against our people and a shameless act for obstructing the reunification of Korea and fostering national discord and antagonism, says the commentary.

It stresses in conclusion: the production of the film will only do harm to the peaceful reunification of Korea and to the preservation of peace in Korea and Asia and go directly against the trend of the independent development of our era. And it will only throw an obstacle to the development of the friendly relations between the Korean and Japanese peoples.

The production of "Inchon," a movie for false propaganda against the Korean people, must be stopped at once.

Detrimental to Reunification

OW121355Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0859 GMT 12 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, March 12 (KCNA)--MINJU CHOSON today in a commentator's article denounces the plan of the Japanese motion picture company "Toho Film" to produce an anti-communist war movie "Inchon" against our country, financed by the "Unification Church" and the "International Anti-communist League."

The article notes that the film dealing with the U.S. imperialist aggression troops' landing in Inchon in the past Korean War completely distorts the historical facts by maliciously insulting our people's army and praising the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

It recalls that the scenario of the film was written by an ill-famed ultra-rightist of the United States and its production is participated in by the "Unification Church," an organisation of anti-communist fanatics wearing the mask of religion, and the "International Anti-communist League," another anti-communist organisation.

As is clear from its content and production plan, the film "Inchon" is an anti-communist propaganda movie aimed at opposing our republic and inciting the aggressors' war hysteria. The plan to produce this film is an intolerable challenge to our people and a shameless act for hampering the reunification of Korea and causing discord and antagonism within our nation.

The plan for the production of the film fully reveals another aspect of the collusion and dark fusion of the U.S., Japan and the South Korean puppets in obstructing the reunification of Korea and fabricating "two Koreas."

This is detrimental to the realization of the peaceful reunification of Korea and to the preservation of peace in Korea and Asia and lays an obstacle to developing the friendly relations between the Korean and Japanese peoples.

The criminal plan to produce the reactionary film against the Korean people must be dropped. No artifice can distort the historical facts.

BRIEFS

FRONT GROUP VISITS EAST EUROPE--Pyongyang, 8 Mar--A delegation of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland headed by Ho Chong-suk left Pyongyang by plane for a visit to Yugoslavia, Romania and Poland. It was seen off at the airport by personages concerned Hong Ki-mun, Pak Chol-kun and Kim Chol-min and Yugoslav Ambassador Tode Vardziski, Romanian Ambassador Dumitru Popa, and First Secretary of the Polish Embassy Tadeusz Sajan in Pyongyang. [Text] [Pyongyang KCNA in English 0338 GMT 8 Mar 78 SK]

VISITING U.S. DEFENSE OFFICIAL MEETS WITH PAK CHONG-HUI

SK140835Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0820 GMT 14 Mar 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, 14 Mar (HAPTONG)--President Pak Chong-hui today received U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Charles W. Duncan and his party, including Morton I. Abramowitz, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of defense for east Asian and Pacific affairs, to discuss matters of mutual concern at the presidential mansion. On hand at the meeting were Defense Minister No Chae-hyon, commander of the U.S. Forces Korea, Gen. John Vessey Jr. and U.S. Ambassador to Korea Richard Sneider.

Concludes Visit

SK140836Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0825 GMT 14 Mar 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, 14 Mar (HAPTONG)--Charles Duncan, U.S. deputy defense secretary, left here for home winding up a four-day visit to South Korea during which he observed the on-going Korea-U.S. joint military exercise "Team Spirit '78" and met with Korean Government leaders, including President Pak Chong-hui and Premier Choe Kyu-ha.

He told a press conference that he had useful talks with Korean Government leaders on ways of strengthening Korea's defense, particularly the modernization of the Korean Air Force. But no concrete agreement has been made on the type of aircraft South Korea would introduce from the United States, the Pentagon official said.

The operation "Team Spirit '78" would surely contribute to improving the capabilities of Korean and U.S. forces to respond to any contingency in Korea, Duncan added. He was told by Korean and U.S. commanders that the joint exercise was a success, the official said.

KOREA HERALD URGES ACTION TO REGAIN DOLLAR STABILITY

SK122351Y Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Mar 78 p 4 SK

[Editorial: "Dollar Problems"]

[Text] The persisting downward trend of the dollar's value against the Japanese yen and the strong currencies of Western Europe is a cause for concern, inasmuch as this country derives from external trade much of the resources needed for its economic development. The sharp sliding of the dollar over a protracted period of time is feared to disrupt the international monetary system to the direct detriment of international trade at a time when an expansion of world trade is desirable to insure the economic development of both industrialized and developing countries, including our own nation.

The situation involving the dollar's performance in international currency markets threatens to be further complicated as oil-producing countries are growing vocal in suggesting hikes in their crude oil prices as a means to compensate for the loss in the value of their dollar-based assets. Should oil producing countries reach agreement on another substantial increase of their oil prices, it will doubtless deal a severe blow to the world economy as a whole, not to mention resource-short developing countries, inclusive of this nation. Thus, it is very desirable that the dollar regain its stability in the international currency market as early as possible to help in a normal growth of world trade.

Though the restoration of the dollar's stability is essential to the healthy growth of the world economy, the resolution of dollar problems is not easy, as has been observed, primarily because the stabilization of the dollar's value requires combined efforts by the countries involved in the current disorderly fluctuations of currencies. Hitherto, words in the nature of blame-shifting had been exchanged between the United States on one hand and strong-currency nations on the other hand. Blame-shifting serves only to deepen differences among the affected countries and results in prolonging the disorderly pattern in the currency market.

In this connection, President Jimmy Carter's trans-Atlantic telephone call made to German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt Thursday [9 March] on currency problems can be seen as a development of the climate toward seeking a common approach to countering disorderly currency markets. Differences between trade-surplus nations such as Japan and West Germany and the deficit-piling United States remain basically wide. The two strong-currency countries feel that the United States is not making adequate efforts to stop the dollar's decline, while Washington thinks that Bonn and Tokyo are not doing enough to curtail their huge trade surpluses through expansion of their economic growth.

We concur with President Carter's assessment that the dollar will be "fairly well-priced" in the long run. Unquestionably, the American economy is the strongest in the world and has the ability to stabilize its own currency in foreign money markets. However, the process of the U.S. dollar's settling at a parity in relation to other major currencies could be unduly long in the absence of a common approach to stabilizing the dollar as well as American domestic initiatives like a workable energy program. If the dollar's sliding trend continues further, it will bring about problems that can hurt our effort to sustain export growth. For one thing, our country depends much on Japan for the supply of key industrial raw materials. Japan will naturally charge more for such raw materials, thus weakening our export competitiveness. On the other hand, it will further restrict its imports of goods from this country to protect its domestic industries, resulting in further widening the trade gap which is already conspicuously in disfavor of this country. It thus behooves the authorities to keep watch over the dollar's downward trend and augment the effort to bolster the international competitiveness of our industries to be able to surmount export hurdles that may be posed by prolonged unstable international currency markets.

REUNIFICATION MINISTER CONDEMNS WESTERN CONCEPTS OF 'EQUITY, LIBERTY'

SK140830Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0815 GMT 14 Mar 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, 14 Mar (HAPTONG)--National Unification Minister Yi Yong-hui said today the answer to a solution of inter-Korean problems lies not in the alien concept of liberty and equity, but in the concept of nationalism.

"Equity and liberty are Western concepts alien to us and if Korea adopts them and translates them into practice, then a conflict between South Korea and North Korea will be inevitable," Yi told a chapel meeting of Yonsei University here.

He said the Western concept of liberty and equity historically is based on national wealth acquired on the basis of inequity and subjugation of other people. Korea, which has no such a basis, therefore, should seek to solve its own problems on the basis of nationalism rooted in its tradition. He warned if both Koreas attempt to apply the alien concept of liberty and equity to a solution of their own problems, they would most likely retard the progress of their nation by 40 to 50 years.

CABINET REPORT DETAILS RICE SENT TO 'RICE-SCARCE' AREAS

BK121536Y Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Mar 78 BK

[Text] According to the report of the Council of Ministers submitted to the first meeting of the Second People's Assembly dealing with transport and communications, rice was sent on a monthly basis to rice-scarce areas throughout Burma under the direction of the Central Transport Coordination Committee in accordance with the guidelines of the Burma Socialist Program Party and in consultation with the Agricultural and Farm Products Corporation, state transportation organizations, and state and division transportation coordination committees.

According to the report, between July and the end of December 1977 more than 140,000 tons of rice was sent to Mandalay Division, more than 110,000 tons to Magwe Division, more than 15,000 tons to Tenasserim Division, more than 9,700 tons to Karen State, more than 62,000 tons to Shan State and more than 2,800 tons to northern Chin State.

CABINET REPORT ON OIL DRILLING, PRODUCTION

BK130924Y Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Mar 78 BK

[Text] The Mann oil refinery construction plan is being implemented in Minbu area. The refinery, which will be tested by the middle of 1980, will begin production by 1981. This was mentioned in the oil production part of the report of the Council of Ministers submitted to the first meeting of the Second People's Assembly.

The report also says that 27 new wells have been drilled, using 17 drilling machines, to a total depth of 112,000 feet. The wells were drilled at Letpando, (Yenan Yuwa), Mann, Myanaung, (Yenandatmauk), (Salu), Mindegyi, Yenangyaung, (Setpe), (Tonenaung), Ywathaya, (Paukkaung) and (Yingyi) oilfields and areas.

Special efforts to extract crude oil continued during the second half of 1977. As a result, more than 4.81 million barrels of crude was extracted from various oilfields during the same period. Natural gas was also extracted from Chauk, Ayadaw, Yenangyat and Myanaung oilfields and sold and transported mostly to the Sale and Kyungyaung chemical fertilizer plants, Kyungyaung power plant, Chauk oil refinery, Kyangin cement plant and Myanaung power plant.

Regarding the extraction of natural gas, gas from Letpando well No 7 was sent to Kyungyaung power plant and gas from (Salu) was sent to the cement plant in Thayet on an experimental basis.

PRESS CALLS FOR JOINT VENTURES, INCREASED EXPORTS

BK101621Y Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0140 GMT 10 Mar 78 BK

[From the press review--report on KYEMON and LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN editorials of 10 March]

[Text] The KYEMON editorial, entitled "Work Together in Mutually Beneficial Programs," says that the guidelines of the third 4-year economic plan--approved and prescribed by the third party congress--stipulate how mutually beneficial programs can be worked out. The guidelines of the 20-year economic plan also state that enterprises such as mining, industries and other development projects--which benefit the state but which cannot be carried out with the country's financial means--can be realized either by obtaining assistance from international organizations and foreign countries or by cooperating as long as socialism is unaffected.

Replying to some points raised by assemblymen at the recently concluded People's Assembly meeting, the minister of planning and finance said that arrangements have been made to cooperate and work out within a certain specified period mutually beneficial programs which do not affect socialism and which will strengthen the socialist economy. He stated that, since mutually beneficial programs will be carried out in the third 4-year plan period, we believe that these programs will help enhance efforts to build the socialist economy.

The LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN editorial, entitled "Export Target," says that the report of a minister presented at the first meeting of the Second People's Assembly states that the export target for fiscal 1978-79--the first year of the third 4-year economic plan--is 2.47 billion kyats. Expanding exports of goods produced at home is vital to earning more foreign currency. Accordingly the state is concentrating on exports to gain more foreign exchange.

Of the various means to earn foreign exchange, we have two choices. The first is to sell domestically produced goods to foreign countries, and the second is to obtain financial assistance and loans from international organizations and foreign countries without impairing the socialist economic system. Of the two ways, earning foreign currency by expanding exports is the more profitable. It will serve the economy better in the long run.

We wish to urge all concerned to do everything possible in all sectors to achieve the export target of 2.47 billion kyats for fiscal 1978-79 in accord with the report presented at the assembly.

PAPER CALLS FOR OVERFULFILLMENT OF THIRD 4-YEAR PLAN

BK121236Y Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0140 GMT 12 Mar 78 BK

[From the press review--12 March KYEMON editorial: "Concentrate on the Agricultural Sector"]

[Text] The agricultural sector is given top priority under the third 4-year plan. One of the goals of the 20-year economic plan is to transform Burma into an industrial country based on agriculture. It is appropriate to give top priority to agriculture since most of Burma's population of over 32 million live in rural areas.

It is estimated that there will be 12.64 million working people in Burma in 1978, most of them in the agricultural sector. There are altogether 8.21 million farm workers constituting 65 percent of the working masses. Giving top priority to agriculture thus accords with the prevailing conditions in the country.

To be able to more successfully implement the agricultural plan during the third 4-year plan period, it is necessary to review the experiences obtained during the second 4-year plan period. An average 98 percent of the agricultural production goal was achieved yearly during the second 5-year plan, and production conditions improved every year.

The third 4-year plan will be implemented on the basis of these good results. According to the target, net value of agricultural production in 1978-79--the first year of the third 4-year plan--must rise by 5 percent. An investment of 301 million kyats has been authorized to achieve this goal. It is thus necessary that efforts be made on the basis of the progress made during the second 4-year plan so that the third 4-year plan will be overfulfilled.

CAPTURED SPY DETAILS VIETNAM'S PLANS FOR CAMBODIA

BK111348Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 10 Mar 78 BK

[Confession by former South Vietnamese Lieutenant (Thach Van Thong), captured in Prey Veng Province on 14 February--portion recorded]

[Text] The Vietnamese enemy has acquired world-wide notoriety as an expansionist, annexationist aggressor against Cambodia. The Vietnamese have become completely isolated, covertly or overtly condemned by everybody. They are being driven into a total impasse. Accordingly they have resorted to a variety of dark schemes such as raising a hue and cry and staging various diplomatic maneuvers concerning their desire for "special friendship and solidarity" negotiations to settle the border dispute with Cambodia. Nevertheless they continue to shell Cambodian territory and to send spies and commandoes to savagely encroach on our territory every day. They have been handed shameful defeats each time they set foot on our land in their attempts at aggression and espionage.

This confession by (Thach Van Thong), former lieutenant of the Thieu-Ky forces and currently a spy for the Vietnamese, more clearly exposes their loudly touted desire for a negotiated settlement of the border issue as nothing but a criminal, pernicious attempt to lull the revolutionary vigilance of the Cambodian people and revolutionary army and to fool world opinion in order to cover up their daily encroachments and frenzied preparations for another large-scale invasion of our Democratic Cambodia. The Vietnamese enemy has not abandoned his ultimate goal of forcing Cambodia into a Vietnamese-dominated Indochinese federation so as to facilitate annexation of Cambodia within a specified period. To gratify his excessive greed, the enemy resorts to all manner of criminal, despicable means including forcing Thieu-Ky soldiers to become spies inside Cambodia.

We now present the confession of one of these agents, captured by our revolutionary army on 14 February 1978 at Peam Totoeng village, Baphnum district, Prey Veng Province:

[Begin recording in Vietnamese with simultaneous translation into Cambodian] My name is (Thach Van Thong), aged 44. I was born in (Tran Hung) village, (Xom Vinh Hoa) commune, Chau Thanh district, Sa Dec Province. I am a former Thieu-Ky first lieutenant.

In June 1975 four-star Lieutenant (Nguyen Van Di), political chairman of the 8th Division, lectured all of us prisoners about the situation at home and abroad. He told us that since liberation the Vietnamese people had been suffering acute food shortages and that the domestic situation was bad because of rebellion.

After reviewing how the Vietnam Communist Party was founded and headed by Ho Chi Minh, who led the country in the protracted war, he said: The VCP is the big brother in Indochina, but Cambodia does not want to join the Indochinese federation with the VCP. As a younger brother, however, Cambodia should not remain out of the federation. We, the big brother, should not let the younger brother do things their own way. We should force them to follow the VCP. This is the line of the VCP, established long ago by Ho Chi Minh. Future generations should strive to fulfill this goal.

Lt. (Nguyen Van Di) also made us prisoners understand that if Cambodia refused to join with the VCP in a federation, the VCP would seize the country by armed force. After liberating Cambodia, he said, Vietnamese people would settle down in all Cambodian provinces, districts, communes and villages and a new Cambodian communist party would be created under Vietnam's control.

Last September 40 of us were selected by two-star Lieutenant (Luong) and sent to various regiments within the division. Our duty was to dig trenches and carry ammunition for the soldiers during combat. Lieutenant (Luong) supervised us.

In October Lieutenant (Luong), the warden of the 8th Division's prison at Moe Hoat, called me for a briefing at the office of one-star Colonel (Man), commander of the 1st Regiment, 8th Division. I was introduced to Colonel (Man) and his deputy, four-star Lieutenant (Tien).

Colonel (Man) instructed me to collect information in Cambodia. I was to reconnoiter the locations and numbers of Cambodian artillery, forces, trenches, tanks, minefields, bamboo spikes and populous areas in the border region. Colonel (Man) clearly indicated that if my mission succeeded I would be freed and allowed to rejoin my family. If captured I was to claim that I was a former Thieu-Ky soldier fleeing persecution. I was told to try to escape to Vietnam eventually. He said if I collected good information I would be reinstated in the army and allowed to keep my former rank of first lieutenant.

I then accepted the spying mission. On 15 October Colonel (Man) ordered me to reconnoiter 1 km inside Cambodia near the police station in Cham commune, Baphuum district, Prey Veng Province. There I saw two groups of Cambodian forces from a distance. I then came back and reported my findings to Lieutenant (Luong), who forwarded my report to Colonel (Man) at the (Hung Dien Be) command post. After reading my report the colonel said he recognized my service, but it was not yet time to free me as I had completed only one mission. On 4 December he ordered me to reconnoiter 2 km inside Cambodian territory near the Krang Leav canal. This time I observed the movements of a platoon patrolling 50 meters away. That evening I reported my findings to warden (Luong), who sent my report to Colonel (Man).

On 14 February 1978 Colonel (Man) gave me another spying mission. This time he told me that the VCP's announced desire to settle the border issue through negotiations was only a political maneuver. The essence of the party's policy, he said, remained the same; that is, to force Cambodia into an Indochinese federation controlled by the VCP. The VCP's appeal for negotiations, he went on, was intended only to win worldwide approval and to make the world believe that we love peace, that we want to resolve the border problem and that we commit aggression against no country. Colonel (Man) stressed that with this, world public opinion would be fooled into thinking that Cambodia was the aggressor. The world will certainly support us, he said. Therefore, he continued, we must take this opportunity to attack Cambodia and achieve the goal of the VCP. This appeal for talks is only a cover for the activities of our Vietnamese forces. Actually, the VCP plans to seize Cambodia's territory.

(Man) said he would free me upon my return, but I declined the offer and refused to spy for him again as the situation in the border region had worsened and I was afraid of being arrested by the Cambodian forces. (Man) threatened that if I refused, I would die because I was once a Thieu-Ky officer. He said my hands were stained with the blood of the people. How can you oppose the nation at a time of need? he asked. I hesitated. Then (Man) gave me a companion named (Nguyen Van Toi), another former Thieu-Ky first lieutenant.

Later Colonel (Man) ordered two Vietnamese soldiers to escort us. En route to the border I hesitated and considered fleeing, but our escort threatened to shoot both of us.

As we crossed the border, our escorts waited to make sure we really did enter Cambodia. After we penetrated about 1 km and were approaching Pean Totoeng village, Baphum district, Prey Veng Province, we ran into a group of Cambodian forces on 14 February 1978. I surrendered and was captured. (Nguyen Van Toi) was shot and killed.

Made on 6 March 1978

Signed: (Thach Van Thong) [end recording]

YUGOSLAV PRESS DELEGATION VISITS CENTRAL REGION

BK131414Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 12 Mar 78 BK

[Text] On 11 March the Yugoslav press delegation arrived in Kompong Thom town. Joined by the Yugoslav ambassador, they made stops all along National Route 6, and visited and photographed dry season ricefields in Baray area being irrigated from the Muoy Meakara Reservoir on Stoeng Chnit, located 10 km away. The Angkor and Kramuon Sar rice strains planted in the area are growing well.

The Yugoslavs arrived at the site of the Muoy Meakara Reservoir at about 1100. There comrades in charge of the maintenance of the reservoir told its story to the delegation. Construction was started on 1 January 1977 and was completed in May 1977. The reservoir is 3 km long, 2 km wide, 3.5 meters deep and can irrigate 30,000 hectares.

At 1230 the delegation began a visit to Pram Muoy Meakara worksite on Stoeng Tang Krasang, where 23,000 members of our mobile youth units are striving to build another reservoir. Shortly before they arrived at the worksite the journalists met and interviewed Comrade (Chon), a former abbot in Baray area, who left the monkhood to serve in the Cambodian Revolutionary Army and contribute to the struggle for liberation.

At 1530 the Yugoslavs continued along National Route 6, making a stop to visit the Pram Meakara Reservoir at Santuk. Construction was started on 15 February 1977 and completed on 10 June 1977. The reservoir is 4,000 meters long, 2,750 meters wide, 2 meters deep and can store enough water to irrigate 7,300 hectares of ricefields.

In regard to the progress of the dry season rice crop, which has brought an impressive change to the scenery of the Cambodian countryside, the Yugoslav newsmen were of the opinion that Cambodia's rice is its most important weapon. Where there is rice the people can live decently and independently. They said: We have never seen so much water and rice; Cambodia is the granary of Asia.

IMPROVED LIVING CONDITIONS REPORTED

BK131110Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 12 Mar 78 BK

[Station commentary: "In 1978 our Collective People's Living Conditions Further Improved"]

[Text] In Cambodia the poor and lower middle class peasants, workers and laborers were formerly exploited and oppressed by the colonialists, traitors, and the feudalists and capitalist landowners. Poor people were, in fact, the ones who worked hardest, but still they remained poor, having suffered and experienced hardships for many generations. They made up the majority of the Cambodian population.

After the great victory of 17 April 1975, when the Cambodian nation was totally liberated, the poor were also freed from the evil grip of the U.S. imperialists, the traitorous clique, the feudalists, the capitalists and the other exploiting classes. Under the KCP's most correct and clear-sighted leadership our poor have since become masters of their villages, districts, country and the revolution, enjoying the right to determine completely the destiny of their nation and themselves. These poor people now enjoy all the liberties of conscience and all democratic rights.

Regarding their material life, our people have experienced many shortages because their former poor means of livelihood was heavily damaged during more than 5 years of the U.S. imperialist war of aggression. While trying to fulfill the tasks of national defense carrying on socialist revolution and construction--the most important main tasks--the KCP has determined that the tasks of solving the people's problems and improving living conditions are the most important and urgent problems, and must be solved before other problems.

Our party has decided to do this because it realizes that although our poor have suffered for a long time, it was they who shouldered the heaviest responsibilities during the war. The party has found it necessary to solve the people's livelihood problems and to improve their living conditions as quickly as possible. Every effort must be aimed at improving the living conditions of the people.

Since our KCP clearly determined these tasks our collective workers and peasants and our revolutionary army everywhere have struggled to fulfill their respective roles in the most enthusiastic manner under the following slogan: Launch an offensive to fulfill all the main tasks in the most vigorous and consistent manner, maximize rice production, grow all sorts of crops on every square inch of land and raise all sorts of farm animals in order to help raise the standard of living and boost the national defense and construction efforts.

In the postwar struggle to rehabilitate the economy and improve living conditions our masses have encountered many obstacles. However, they have always succeeded in their attempts to solve and overcome obstacles according to the policy of independence, sovereignty and self-reliance. The fruits of our collective people and revolutionary army on agricultural, industrial and other fronts are safe in their hands. Unlike the old society, there is no exploiting class of any kind to exploit or plunder them.

The struggle from 1975 through 1977 has gradually improved our standard of living. Today our collective masses are everywhere reaping excellent results from their 1977 efforts. Despite the 1977 drought and plundering by the Vietnamese, peasants at all cooperative headquarters still succeeded in fulfilling the party's and the Democratic Cambodian Government's 1977 production plan. This great success has helped further improve our living conditions.

Our people in the workers' union, cooperatives and army units now have plenty of rice for their own consumption, seed for the next growing season, a specified quantity of rice in reserve, and still a significant amount of surplus to turn over to the government to help the frontlines and the national construction effort. We also have other crops, food supplies, textiles, medical supplies and houses. Our living conditions have been stabilized and gradually improved, and material needs no longer pose a problem.

It is true that our livelihood is not yet abundant, but if compared to living conditions when we had just emerged from the war on in the old society, we find that we are now more decently fed and clothed and that our existence is totally secure. Furthermore, everyone has also taken part in political, technical, cultural and other studies. This new way of life was previously unknown to any of our people. That is why they unanimously agree that if they had not engaged in revolution, they would never have been able to achieve this new means of livelihood, which is totally secure in every respect.

The new livelihood is attributable to the fact that our masses of collective workers, peasants and our revolutionary army have made all sorts of sacrifices in their struggle to overcome natural obstacles and enemies of all stripes--especially in the struggle against the U.S. imperialists and, in the new phase which followed liberation, against the Vietnamese, who have always tried to ravage us. It is also due to the KCP, which has provided leadership along a correct policy, and to our strong and stable collectivist system. It is the KCP and this collectivist system which have safeguarded the fruits of our efforts.

As long as we have the KCP to provide us with guidance, our collectivist system and the will to carry on an even more vigorous socialist revolution and provide better defense for the country, our living conditions will certainly further improve.

Living conditions in 1978 have improved despite the fact the Vietnamese and their agents have destroyed our crops. In years to come, if we succeed in defending our country--in other words, if we succeed in foiling all the vicious maneuvers and destructive activities of enemies of all stripes, especially the Vietnamese, who continue to carry out aggressive maneuvers, to shell and strafe our territory and send commandos to conduct espionage, subversion and sabotage against lives and property in border areas--we will be able to improve our standard of living even more rapidly than in the past year. Then we will be able to speed up the socialist construction of Cambodia and totally safeguard our country.

If we are strong in every respect enemies of all stripes, especially the Vietnamese, will never be able to annex Cambodia through the Indochinese federation strategy or other tactics.

SIANG PASASON DENOUNCES U.S.-ROK JOINT EXERCISE

BK131544Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 10 Mar 78 BK

[SIANG PASASON 10 March editorial: "The U.S. Imperialists Must Immediately Halt the Military Exercise in South Korea"]

[Text] On 7 March the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, the Pak Chong-hui clique, staged a war game, presumably using the DPRK as their target. The military exercise was codenamed "Team Spirit '78." In staging the exercise, the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Chong-hui clique mustered over 100,000 military personnel from their navies, armies, air forces and marine corps. The United States deployed a missile unit; B-52's, F-111's, F-4's and R7B's stationed on bases in the United States, Hawaii, Guam, Japan, the Philippines; and part of the U.S. 7th Fleet in the biggest joint exercise ever.

This serious and major provocation by the U.S. imperialists is taking place following the great, epochal victories of the three Indochinese peoples, and at a time when the world situation is developing unprecedentedly in favor of the revolutionary struggle of all nations and when the Korean people are carrying out a resolute struggle for the peaceful and sovereign unification of their homeland in furtherance of the three-point principle and the five-point solution advanced by President Kim Il-song and the four-point proposal adopted at the conference of Korean social and mass organizations.

This adventurous act by the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen also exposes the stubborn nature of U.S. imperialism and its guislings, who are scheming to invade the DPRK and kindle a new war in that region, thus running counter to the aspirations of the Korean people and of other nations in Asia and elsewhere, including the peace- and justice-loving people in the United States. This action also gives the lie to the U.S. claim that it will gradually withdraw its forces from South Korea.

This military exercise only serves to expose more starkly the aggressive U.S. nature. It shows that their pretentious cherishing of peace and justice is merely a deception. As a matter of fact, the U.S. imperialists are not only financing and backing the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique; they are also closely allying with the Japanese militarists and other reactionary forces in various countries in this region in a bid to implement their counterrevolutionary global strategy.

Whatever show of might the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen may make in this military exercise, they cannot redress their weakening position and hinder the vigorous revolutionary struggle for national independence and democracy in the world, especially in Asia and the Pacific. On the contrary, these revolutionary movements will even become unprecedentedly stronger. All the designs of the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique have been thwarted.

This military exercise in particular is being strongly condemned by world public opinion, especially in the DPRK and neighboring countries. On 6 March the spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry released a statement denouncing this war game and calling on all countries to protest it as well.

The Lao people fully support that statement and demand that the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen stop at once their military exercise, unconditionally withdraw U.S. troops from South Korea as soon as possible--as we stated earlier--and cease all acts of aggression against and interference in the peaceful and sovereign unification of Korea. The Korean people must be allowed to settle their own affairs in accordance with the three-point principle and the five-point solution advanced by President Kim Il-song.

We firmly believe that the struggle for the reunification of Korea is a just cause and that the Korean people, with their tradition of indomitable struggle, will win complete victory.

POLISH TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN VIENTIANE 11 MAR

BK140404Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 13 Mar 78 BK

[Text] In response to an invitation of our Lao Government, an economic and trade delegation of the Polish People's Republic headed by Vice Minister of Foreign Trade and Maritime Economy T. Nestorowicz arrived in Vientiane at 1400 on 11 March on a friendly visit to our country. The delegation was welcomed upon its arrival at Wattai Airport by Khambou Soumaisai, deputy chief of the National Planning Committee, and a number of cadres concerned. Polish Ambassador to Laos Franciszek Mliczek and a number of embassy staff members also welcomed the delegation at the airport.

At 1500 on the same day, economic representatives of Laos and Poland met and discussed economic and trade relations and banking affairs between the two countries.

On the evening of the same day Khambou Soumaisai, on behalf of our government, held a banquet at the Lan Xang Hotel in Vientiane in honor of the Polish delegation. Minister of Industry and Commerce Maisouk Saisompheng and many high-ranking cadres attached to the ministry attended. The Polish ambassador to Laos also attended the banquet, which proceeded in an atmosphere of warm cordiality and friendship from beginning to end.

Departs 13 March

BK140406Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] After ending a 2-day friendly visit to our country, the economic and trade delegation of the Polish People's Republic headed by Vice Minister of Foreign Trade and Maritime Economy T. Nestorowicz left Vientiane for home on the morning of 13 March.

Seeing the Polish delegation off at Tha Deua wharf [opposite Nong Khai, Thailand] were Khambou Soumaisai, deputy chief of the national planning committee, and cadres attached to the Industry and Commerce Ministry, the national bank, and the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

During its stay in our country, in addition to meeting and holding discussions with Lao economic and trade representatives, the Polish delegation called on Minister of Industry and Commerce Maisouk Saisompheng, during which the guests and the host talked in a cordial, friendly atmosphere. The delegation also went sightseeing and viewed a number of antiquities in Vientiane.

ESCAP DELEGATION RETURNS FROM BANGKOK SESSION

BK140857Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 13 Mar 78 BK

[Text] On the evening of 11 March a Lao Government delegation led by Noupnan Sitphasai, vice minister of foreign affairs, returned to Vientiane from Bangkok after attending the 34th session of ESCAP, which began on 7 March and will conclude on 17 March. Several high-ranking Foreign Ministry cadres were on hand at Wattai Airport to welcome the delegation.

At the ESCAP session, the head of the Lao delegation delivered a speech in which he discussed economic and social construction in our country in the past year and the LPDR Government's foreign policy of cooperation with foreign countries. As Laos is the chair country of the interim Mekong committee, the Lao delegation also reported to the session on the formation of that committee and its initial activities and 1978 program of action. Our delegation also called on friendly countries and international organizations to support and to contribute to the implementation of various projects undertaken by the committee so as to enable it to achieve its stated goals.

FOREIGN AMBASSADORS RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENT LEADERS

PRC by Souk Vongsak

BK140841Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 10 Mar 78 BK

[Text] On the afternoon of 6 March, Public Health Minister Souk Vongsak received PRC Ambassador Hsu Huang, who paid a courtesy call on him at the Public Health Ministry. The two held a cordial conversation. They expressed hope that the time-honored friendly relations between Laos and PRC would be further strengthened.

Cambodian by Nouhak Phoumsavan

BK140516Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] On the morning of 13 March at the Finance Ministry, Vice Premier and Minister of Finance Nouhak Phoumsavan received Sam San, ambassador of Democratic Cambodia. Vice Premier Nouhak Phoumsavan and Ambassador Sam San conversed in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship and good mutual understanding.

Bulgarian by Phoumi Vongvichit

BK140520Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] On the afternoon of 13 March at the Education Ministry, Tenyu Petrov Kolev, ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, took leave of Vice Minister and Minister of Education, Sports and Religious Affairs Phoumi Vongvichit upon the completion of his term. Vice Premier Phoumi Vongvichit and Ambassador Tenyu Petrov Kolev conversed in an atmosphere of profound cordiality and friendship.

Malaysian by Souphanouvong, Phoun Sipaseut

BK140526Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] At 1630 on 13 March, Malaysian Ambassador Abdul Rahman bin Jalal took leave of President Souphanouvong at the presidential office upon the completion of his term of service in Laos. Earlier, the outgoing Malaysian ambassador also called on Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs Phoun Sipaseut at the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Both Souphanouvong and Phoun Sipaseut received and conversed with Ambassador Abdul Rahman bin Jalal in a cordial, friendly atmosphere. Abdul Rahman bin Jalal was appointed Malaysian ambassador to Laos on 10 April 1975.

Mexican by Phoun Sipaseut

BK140528Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] At 1630 on 13 March Mexican Ambassador Arturo Gonzalez Sanchez took leave of Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs Phoun Sipaseut upon the completion of his term. Arturo Gonzalez Sanchez has held his post as Mexican ambassador since 15 March 1977.

YOUTH DELEGATION'S GDR VISIT REPORTED

BK141340Y Vietiane KPL in English 0958 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Vientiane, 14 Mar (KPL)--The Lao youth delegation led by Maichantan Sengmani, secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, now visiting the German Democratic Republic, on 9 March called on Paul Verner, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED).

In his cordial conversation with the delegation, Mr Paul Verner said this visit to the GDR would help to strengthen the friendly relations between the peoples and youth of the two countries. The Lao head delegate thanked the GDR youth for their warm reception and praised the constant development of friendship and solidarity between the Lao and GDR youth.

On the same day, Mr Maichantan Sengmani and Gunther Jahr, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Free German Youth League [FGYL], signed an agreement on cooperation between the LPRUY and the FGYL which will contribute to further promoting the struggle of the world youth and students against imperialism. Under that agreement, the FGYL and the "Ernst Thaelmann" young pioneers will continue to assist the Lao youth and children.

SIANG PASASON URGES ORGANIZED STUDY OF KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN REPORT

BK131230Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 7 Mar 78 BK

[SIANG PASASON 7 March editorial: "Organize the Study of Premier Kaysone Phomvihan's Report"]

[Text] At the 2 March joint session of the Supreme People's Council and the Council of Ministers, Premier Kaysone Phomvihan, acting on behalf of the LPDR Government, presented a report on the situation and victories of the implementation of the line, plans and policies of the party and state in 1977. The premier's report also outlined the direction, duties and tasks in the next 3 years--1978 to 1980--and the main tasks for 1978.

The report was divided into three major parts. The first part discussed the situation and victories of the implementation of the line, plans and policies of the party and state in the past year. It dealt with the world situation since the great victories of the three Indochinese peoples and pointed out that the three revolutionary currents are vigorously, relentlessly and violently surging forward and are developing in an unprecedented manner in favor of the revolution.

Regarding the internal situation, under the correct leadership of the party and state, with a domestic policy attuned to stepping up and firmly grasping the proletarian dictatorship, implementing and enhancing the working people's collective mastership and simultaneously carrying out the three revolutions, and with a foreign policy based upon thorough reliance on socialism, especially by strengthening the all-round alliance and cooperation with Vietnam and striving to gain more international assistance and cooperation, we have developed and expanded the strength of the entire nation.

cooperation, we have developed and expanded the strength of the entire nation and have led the revolution in our country to advance rapidly and firmly. We have scored great victories in the struggle to consolidate our national independence, to safeguard and consolidate the new regime, and to step up peace-keeping and national defense. We have recorded numerous achievements in restoring and expanding the economy and in building socialism.

We have also scored numerous achievements in the educational, cultural and public health fields, thus actively contributing to enhancing the excellent characteristics of the new regime. In international relations, we have brought about new developments and great victories. Several outstanding achievements were also scored in building the administration and in front affairs.

Generally speaking, our victories in carrying out our duties in 1977 were the results of the implementation of the fourth resolution of the party Central Committee as well as the direction adopted by the SPC and the Council of Ministers at the last joint session. Although they are only initial victories, they are all-round, fundamentally sound ones. They serve to create more subjective conditions for the revolution in our country and to pave the way for continuing the struggle to implement the objectives of the revolution in the years to come.

The second part of the report dealt with the direction and duties in the next 3 years and the main tasks in 1978. First of all, it outlined the three fundamental expectations of our political duties from 1978 to 1980. On this basis, 10 main duties were adopted, with transforming and building agriculture and forestry designated the central one. At the same time, fundamental guidelines and a number of detailed work plans and policies were also laid, including those dealing with national defense, peace-keeping, front affairs, mass mobilization work, consolidation of the administration at all levels, and foreign affairs.

Regarding the main duties for 1978--the first year of implementing the 3-year plan--the report outlined eight duties to be carried out. At the same time, the fundamental objectives for 1978 were worked out in detail, including those concerning agriculture, industry and handicrafts, the building of economic foundations, communications, transportation, postal services, internal and external trade, education, cultural and information work, public health and sports.

The third part was an overall conclusion.

Premier Kaysone Phomviharn's report presents both the direction and specific duties of our cadres, soldiers and people throughout the country. Therefore, in order to correctly turn this report into action in accordance with its essence and spirit, the leadership at all levels must extensively, profoundly and thoroughly organize the study of it.

In order to insure smooth and effective study of the report, first of all the leadership at all levels, the administration in each locality and all mass organizations must firmly grasp the importance of intensively studying it, and plan to organize such study with a view to achieving the best possible results. Only by so doing will we be able to encourage efforts to implement the report in accordance with the direction and duties outlined.

BRIEFS

GIFTS FROM HUNGARIAN WOMEN--Vientiane, 9 Mar--Mrs Elizabeth Benyei, wife of the Hungarian ambassador to Laos, on 6 March handed over to Mrs Khampheng Boupha, president of the Lao Patriotic Women's Union, 24 sets of child delivery equipment given by the National Council of Hungarian Women and all its members and expressed her wish for constant development of relations between the Lao and Hungarian women. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 1011 GMT 9 Mar 78 BK]

UPPADIT DESCRIBES TALKS WITH USSR'S FIRYUBIN

BK131506Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 13 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Foreign Minister Uppadit Pachariyangkun today met with visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Nikolay P. Firyubin. He reported to newsmen afterwards that they discussed Thai-Soviet relations, which have been progressing smoothly and trade cooperation. Uppadit told Firyubin that Thailand wants the Soviet Union to buy more from Thailand because this country is still suffering a trade deficit with the Soviet Union.

The Soviet minister thanked Thailand for its support of the Soviet resolution on world peace, that is, the ban on nuclear weapons and proposal for a world peace conference. Uppadit told the Soviet minister that Thailand is peace-loving and therefore supports any move toward peace.

Thailand's foreign policy is to make friends with all countries, regardless of political or economic systems, based on mutual respect for independence and sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs. Through this policy, Uppadit said, Thailand has successfully achieved understanding with its neighbors. It has normalized relations with Vietnam and improved relations with Laos. The only exception is Cambodia, with which Thailand still has some conflicts, but it is believed these will be solved and relations improved.

Uppadit said that Firyubin asked about Thailand's visit of the border incident between Vietnam and Cambodia. He told the Soviet minister that Thailand regrets the incident. Thailand wants to see peace in this region and hopes that the dispute will be settled by peaceful means. This country hopes that the parties concerned will be able to settle the problem between themselves without interference from other countries. As for Thailand, he said, we do not want to interfere. Interference from other countries would only worsen the situation.

Uppadit said that Firyubin supported Thailand's attitude. He said the Soviet Union wants the dispute between Vietnam and Cambodia to be settled by peaceful means. The Soviet Union will not interfere in the dispute.

Asked if they had exchanged views on ASEAN, Foreign Minister Uppadit said that they had. He told the Soviet deputy foreign minister that a major aim of ASEAN cooperation is to make the region a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality. Asked to comment on that ASEAN objective, Firyubin said that the Soviet Union will cooperate with any move toward peace, and the ASEAN initiative is a good one, similar to the current effort by the Soviet Union to hold talks with the United States in order to turn the Atlantic Ocean into a zone of peace, too.

LAO TROOPS TO HOLD FIRE AS MEOS ENTER THAI VILLAGES

BK140915Y Bangkok WORLD in English 14 Mar 78 p 1 BK

[Excerpts] As more Meo refugees fled into Thailand yesterday the commander of the Pathet Lao forces stationed at Don Khon Rat Island in the middle of the Mekong River assured Thai authorities he would ask all his men not to fire across the river into the Thai side in bids to intercept escaping Meos. The assurance came a few hours before a third group of 21 Meo rebels landed at Ban Nong Bua of Phon Phissai last night. They were disarmed of seven M-16s and carbines and 10 handgrenades before being taken to the police station to face questioning and fingerprinting.

The Lao assurance was given by Captain Khamni Keopaseut, a 24-year-old Vietnamese resident who once lived in Nong Khai, to Lt Col Rungsak Khlongsangson, Phon Phisai district police chief. They met for 2 hours at Don Khon Rat where a battalion of Pathet Lao soldiers is posted.

Capt Khaman, who said he finished grade 6 at Nong Khai provincial school, said he would ask his men not to fire into the Thai side in the future. But in return "we want Thai authorities to repatriate all 'Meo reactionaries' from Thai soil," he said.

The Thai side reportedly said: "We cannot promise you this because this is top level policy. What we want in our locality is peace." The Lao leader then replied: "It is necessary for us to fire at the Meo reactionaries." However, as you should know Lao armed forces and Thai armed forces are different. Every soldier here is independent. Although I am a commander, I can't order them all. What I can do is give them advice."

After the Thai officers informed the Lao that 3,000 Thai villagers in three border villages were victims of their random shelling, the Lao officer promised to consult his superior and "at the moment I will tell my men to refrain from overshooting into the Thai side."

Khukrit on Thai-Lao Tension

BK140244Y Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 9 Mar 78 p 7 BK

[Khukrit Pramot's "Ringside" column]

[Text] Once a person has his mind set on something it is difficult to get him to listen to you. I am talking about the present government in Laos. The present Lao government is set on believing that Thailand is its enemy, the Thai people are its enemy and the Thai government is its enemy. Every effort by the Thai government to get Laos to understand us better seems to fail.

As soon he set foot in Thailand, Lao Foreign Minister [as published] Thao Noupnan Sitpitasai, who was attending the ESCAP session in Bangkok, told a press conference in Nong Khai Province that Thailand still has an unfriendly attitude toward Laos and efforts still have to be made to improve relations between the two countries.

Why did he say that Thailand still has an unfriendly attitude toward Laos? Noupnan Sitphasai said that Thai-Lao relations have been better, but not the best, since Prime Minister Kriangsak took over his post. There should be greater improvement in Thai-Lao relations, he said. He said Thailand should avoid sending Lao refugees to create trouble in Laos and should not impound goods which are in transit to landlocked Laos. Noupnan Sitphasai said Laos wants safety along the Mekong River, but did not elaborate on the present cause of the threat to safety.

It is important that Noupnan Sitphasai stated that the United States had reestablished its military bases in Thailand with the approval of the Thai government. "This is well known," Noupnan Sitphasai said. Reporters asked him to tell them where these bases are. He said he does not personally have the details, but others do. Lao Prime Minister Kaysone Phomviharn had made that charge in a speech broadcast on Monday [6 March], though it had already been denied by the U.S. Embassy in Thailand. Noupnan Sitphasai said: "It is regrettable that the U.S. Embassy has denied it when the whole world knows what is what."

Nouphan Sitphasai finally summed up: To improve Thai-Lao relations, the transit of Laos-bound goods across Thailand should be facilitated without delay and there should be no impounding of goods. The security of Lao residents should be guaranteed along the common border demarcated by the Mekong River.

This is very provoking! Relations between any two countries could never be improved if one of them has such a credulous and irresponsible man as the foreign minister [as published]. How can a man improve relationships between his country and others if he vilifies his host as soon as he sets foot in the latter's house?

The present government of Thailand has utterly reversed the previous government's policy toward its neighbors. Thailand is exercising all possible restraint and compromise. This government has opened border points with Laos which were closed by the past government and has permitted the transit of necessary goods, including oil, to Laos. In addition, it has made other friendly gestures, including sending the deputy foreign minister to visit Laos and shipping rice to Laos following the drought--despite the fact that Thailand also had a drought. Thailand has never uttered a word which is damaging to Laos and it has always remained calm in the face of insults from Laos.

The present Lao government seems to readily believe anything it hears or imagines, including the story about U.S. bases in Thailand. Everyone knows that there no longer are any U.S. bases in Thailand, but Nouphan Sitphasai asserted that there are and that everyone knows about it. It is therefore impossible to argue with him. An argument with him would be the same as a quarrel between two kids which ends in a fist fight to decide who is right and who is wrong. In fact, I feel very nervous after reading about the Lao foreign minister's statements. An American base is not something small like a package of fish sauce which can be hidden anywhere. If a U.S. base really were still in Thailand, the Thai people would be the first to cry out, not the Lao government, and the writer of this column would be one of the first criers.

Concerning the transit of Lao goods from Khlong Toei to Laos, I would sympathize with Laos if it would only complain about the delay in transit. We here in Thailand are also fed up with the delay by our transport service. It always takes a long time, not only for the delivery of goods from Khlong Toei to Laos, but also from Khlong Toei to Suan Phlu Lane [Khukrit's house]. This results from our work system and not from the intentional impounding of goods to annoy Laos. It will be the same or even worse if we let Laos transport the goods itself. It is said that the Thai and the Lao people are brothers--this is true because they do things similarly.

In regard to the problems of refugees moving back and forth between Laos and Thailand and the sporadic shooting incidents along the border, Thailand can also blame Laos. Thailand has more substantive evidence to charge Laos with sending men into Thailand for subversive activities. We have full evidence that Laos was the first to open fire across the Mekong River. Thailand has not said anything about the incidents because it wants to maintain relations with Laos and to pave the way for an even better relationship.

Good relations can only exist between two countries through the sincerity and constructive efforts of both sides. This ~~must be~~ reciprocated. Since the present government in Laos came to power, that country has been a constant source of trouble for Thailand. I don't know what kind of an administration causes tens of thousands of its people to flee. Thailand is forced to take care of these refugees, who cause numerous problems, including economic and political problems as well as security problems. Thailand has no choice but to accept them. Lao border soldiers behave arrogantly. They fire into Thailand whenever they feel like it. They never bother about friendly relations and good understanding.

It seems this does not exist for Laos. When Thailand decided to close the border, Laos protested the move, accusing Thailand of acting inhumanely and causing Laos to starve. When Thailand reopened the border, Laos again accused it of impounding goods and delaying their transport.

If Laos continues to be suspicious of Thailand and never tries to understand what Thailand is doing, there is no chance for the two countries to become friends. A Lao proverb says: The Thai don't understand "sao" [Lao word meaning twenty]; the Lao don't understand "yi sip" [Thai word for twenty]. This seems to be a universal truth. It is impossible for Thai to understand Lao and for Lao to understand Thai. How many more times will the Thai have to cross over to Vientiane and set it afire?

Paper Views Lao Verbal Attacks

BK141004Y Bangkok SIANG PUANGCHON in Thai 14 Mar 78 p 3 BK

[Editorial: "Thailand and Laos"]

[Text] Relations between Thailand and Laos have considerably improved since the fall of the Thanin Kraiwichian government. However, this improvement has been interrupted by sporadic Lao provocations taking advantage of the relaxed situation to cast slurs against Thailand.

Lao Vice Foreign Minister Noupnan, who arrived in Bangkok for the ESCAP conference last week, accused Thailand, the host country, of still having an unfriendly attitude towards Laos. Early this month Lao Prime Minister Kaysone Phomviharn stated in a speech to the joint session of the Lao Supreme People's Council and the Council of Ministers that the United States has reestablished its bases in Thailand with the approval of the Thai Government. He also accused the government in Bangkok of supporting the resistance movement of Lao reactionaries against the Lao revolution.

The accusations of the Lao leaders are groundless. They reflect their unresponsiveness toward Thailand's intention to promote peaceful relations among neighbors having different political systems. They show that Laos is taking the opportunity to slander Thailand while Thailand is trying to keep a cool head with all its neighbors, especially those in Indochina who are adopting a political system undesirable for the Thai. The Lao leaders' accusations against Thailand are an example of verbal attack, a tactic used by communist countries against their enemies in addition to support of local communist insurgency.

Thailand and Laos, it is clear, are adopting different stands in regard to their mutual relations. Thailand is sincerely making efforts to promote a new system of peace in this region instead of provoking one country against another or inciting people to take up weapons against each other. Laos should heed this. Despite the fact that it is now under the complete influence of Vietnam, there is no need for Laos to show off its inferiority complex, or rather, its frustration, in such a manner. Although starving to death and under complete domination by another country, there is no reason for Laos to behave as it is--like a bad boy picking a quarrel with others while they are off guard. Laos' acts are only hurting Thailand's good intentions.

CORRECTION TO SUNTHON SPEECH ON GROWTH PROSPECTS, INVESTMENT

The item entitled "Sunthon on Growth Prospects, Investment Policy," published on page J 3 of the 6 March DAILY REPORT, should be corrected as follows:

Page J 4, fourth paragraph, line two, the figure "1.6 billion" baht should be corrected to read "1.6 million".

BRIEFS

DIRECT LINE TO HAWAII--The Communications Authority of Thailand (CAT) will operate a semi-automatic direct line between Thailand and Hawaii starting from March 16, according to a CAT announcement. The announcement stated that the operation would be on a satellite system from CAT's centres in Chonburi and Chanthaburi through the Taumalu satellite system of Hawaii. With the new operation, Thailand could contact other countries in the Pacific by using Hawaii as the centre while Bangkok would be the centre for other Asian countries. [Excerpt] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 12 Mar 78 p 2 BK]

CHOLERA IN SOUTH PATTANI--Cholera, which has hit several provinces in the central and northern plains, has moved down south and has claimed two lives in this southern province since early this month, it was announced yesterday. Six patients have been found to date in Muang district here. [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 12 Mar 78 p 3 BK]

PROJECTED RICE PRODUCTION--According to Deputy Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives Minister Thamrong Singkhawananit, Thailand is expected to produce 12.67 million tons of rice in this year's first crop and another 800,000 tons in the second crop. The figures might be slightly higher due to the increasing price of rice and to better irrigation facilities. [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 27 Feb 78 BK]

RICE EXPORTS--According to the Foreign Trade Department, each month Thailand exports between 10,000 and 7,000 tons of rice to Hong Kong and Singapore, her regular customers. Ten thousand tons of parboiled rice valued at 66 million baht have been sold to South Yemen and will be delivered next month. In January Thailand agreed to supply 60,000 tons of 100 percent white rice to South Yemen at a price of 47 million baht. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 21 Feb 78 BK]

JANUARY RICE EXPORTS--In January, Thailand exported 232,000 tons of rice. Government sales accounted to 132,000 tons and private sales for 100,000 tons. Most of the rice exported by the government was in fulfillment of contracts previously concluded with ASEAN governments. Indonesia got 89,000 tons, Malaysia 26,000 tons and Singapore 6,000 tons. In addition, 5,000 tons went to the Government of Bangladesh. The most important overseas buyer from private exporters in January was the Government of Iran which bought 38,500 tons of white rice. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 1 Mar 78 BK]

TEXTILES TO PRC--The China National Textile Import Corporation [Chinatex] of the People's Republic of China has agreed to purchase about 100 million baht worth of textile products from the Thai American Textile [TAT] Co Ltd, a member of the TAT board of directors said yesterday. The purchase includes 2.6 million metres of T-R [not further identified] fabric and 1 million metres of polyester filament with a total value of \$4.9 million. Shipment of the purchase is expected to be made between May and October this year. [Excerpt] [Bangkok POST in English 1 Mar 78 p 19 BK]

MAIZE EXPORT POLICY--According to the Foreign Trade Department, with the approval of the Ministry of Commerce and without any quota restrictions, maize will be freely exported from 1 March 1978 through the end of July 1978, or until specified otherwise. However, exporters must show buyers' letters of credit, and prices of exported maize must not be lower than the level regulated by the government. Exporters of maize to Taiwan and Japan have to obtain prior approval from the department before entering into any contract to supply maize. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 3 Mar 78 BK]

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES CAMBODIA'S EVASION OF NEGOTIATIONS

OW131118Y Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Unattributed commentary: "Why Do the Kampuchean Authorities Continue To Elude Negotiations?"]

[Text] Why do the Kampuchean authorities continue to elude negotiations? Recently, faced with strong public pressure, the Kampuchean authorities have been forced to speak about negotiations but have put forth a number of absurd preconditions. They demand that the situation be "normalized" and that Vietnam end its "aggression" and give up its contention to "force" Kampuchea to join the "Indochinese federation" and so on.

The question in everyone's mind is who is responsible for the abnormal situation. Kampuchea is entirely to blame. Since mid 1975 Kampuchea has launched armed attacks against Vietnam, bombarded border areas, burned down houses, and perpetrated brutal crimes against the Vietnamese people. They have whipped up national hatred, slandered Vietnam and unilaterally suspended diplomatic relations with Vietnam.

Their demand that the situation be normalized before holding negotiations is absurd because it is they who have created the abnormal situation. Such a demand reveals their cunning and shows they have no intention of negotiating. Their demands that Vietnam end its aggression and give up its contention to force Kampuchea to join the Indochinese federation are complete Kampuchean distortion to slander Vietnam and give pretext to their infant policy.

Vietnam has on many occasions solemnly declared that it respects Kampuchea's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and it is ready to sign a treaty on this question with Kampuchea. The Kampuchean authorities have to act so deceitfully because they are severely criticized by the Kampuchean people and progressive people all over the world while Vietnam's good will, just and reasonable proposals have been warmly acclaimed.

Faced with such a situation, the Kampuchean authorities should listen to the truth, respond to Vietnam's good will and the demand of the world public to enter into negotiations. This conforms to the aspirations and interests of the Kampuchean people and benefits the friendship between the Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples and peace and security in Southeast Asia. It is regrettable that the Kampuchean authorities refuse to take this alternative and advance along a dangerous path. The crafty conditions they put forth to divert public opinion and the pretexts [to conceal] they lack good will show that they are still obstinate. Moreover, this is a pretext for continuing to purge and repress genuine Kampuchean patriots and to make harsher the life of the Kampuchean people who are already languishing in a hell.

Although a few people support Kampuchea, most progressive world public opinion condemns their crafty allegations. It demands that the Kampuchean authorities stop their violations of Vietnam's territorial sovereignty, put an end to their slanders against Vietnam and respond to the Vietnamese Government's good will as expounded in the 5 February statement.

MEXICAN COMMUNISTS, AMITY GROUP SUPPORT SRV BORDER STAND

OW131505Y Hanoi VNA in English 1445 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 13 Mar (VNA)--The Standing Committee of the Mexican Communist Party Central Committee has sent a message to the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee voicing support to Vietnam's stand on the border issue with Kampuchea.

The message said: "The Mexican Communists express their support to the three-point proposal of the Vietnamese Government to the Kampuchean Government on 5 February and hope that the Kampuchean side will accept the Vietnamese Government's proposal so that negotiations can begin immediately to settle the conflict on the basis of friendship and solidarity, for the future of the peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea, and in the interests of peace and socialism."

In a message to Premier Pham Van Dong on 6 March, the Mexico-GDR Friendship Association expressed its concern and indignation at violations of the Vietnam border by the Kampuchean side and held that these violations had encroached upon the national sovereignty of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and run counter to the vital interests of the Vietnamese people and the Kampuchean people as well. The message considered the Kampuchean authorities' rejection of the Vietnamese Government's proposal for a peaceful settlement of the border issue as a "very unreasonable action." "That is why we firmly support the 5 February 1978 statement of the SRV Government on the Vietnam-Kampuchea relations," the message said.

NHAN DAN: MINERS STRIKE PROVES U.S. CLASS STRUGGLE 'VERY FIERCE'

BK131328Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 13 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Under the title "President Carter Wields His Bludgeon," NHAN DAN today says: President Carter has stated that he resorted to the reactionary Taft-Hartley Act in an attempt to end the strike which has been conducted by some 180,000 coal miners since 6 December 1977. Progressive U.S. and world public opinion is closely following the Carter administration's repressive actions against the strike.

Negotiations between the United Mineworkers and the employers on a new 3-year agreement have been stalemated for months. The prolonged strike has seriously affected the U.S. economy. Many factories have closed down because of diminished coal reserves. Because of the strike, there is now a shortage of many types of coal for export. In particular, the amount of export metallurgic coal has decreased by 20 percent. The price of coal is likely to increase by 5 percent.

NHAN DAN points out: Faced with a situation in which the interests of the employers were threatened, President Carter invoked the Taft-Hartley Act to break the strike. Enacted in 1947, this act permits the U.S. authorities to take all necessary measures, including the use of the armed forces, to compel the workers to resume work for 80 days. It allows the workers to resume their strike if no agreement is reached during this period. But in reality this is merely a ploy to use repressive machinery against the people and the national interests in order to compel the workers to continue to sell their labor cheaply to the capitalists under conditions which the workers can no longer endure.

The paper concludes: The bludgeon has been wielded against the coal miners by the hands of those who call themselves the defenders of human rights. This action all the more conclusively proves that the class struggle in the United States is very fierce.

NHAN DAN: U.S. FACES DIFFICULT CHOICE ON PANAMA CANAL

OW140717Y Hanoi VNA English 0703 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 14 Mar (VNA)--NHAN DAN today says that the United States is facing a difficult choice in the Panama Canal issue. Commenting on the U.S. Senate's decision to vote on the first new treaty before 16 March, the paper notes that debates have been going on in the United States for more than half a year, although the treaties were approved by the Panamanian people in a referendum on 23 October last year.

NHAN DAN continues: "The new treaties, though only a partial victory, are very important to the Panamanian people. They are the result of a persistent struggle waged with the sympathy and active support of other Latin American countries and the whole of progressive mankind."

"To the United States," NHAN DAN says, "the treaties represent a new setback in a vital, strategic area." "Their ratification would threaten monopoly interests and certain people in the Senate are trying to block them by hook or by crook," the paper points out.

"On the other hand, the White House and many on Capitol Hill are worried lest the treaties should not be approved, because they realise the deep changes in the world power balance have made it impossible for U.S. imperialism to maintain its control over the Canal Zone."

"The Carter administration is thus forced to make a retreat which it tries to represent as an act of good will," NHAN DAN remarks. "Either course will land the United States in a disadvantageous position," the paper comments.

NGUYEN HUU THO RECEIVES GDR PARTY DELEGATION

OW131515Y Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 13 Mar (VNA)--Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho this afternoon received the visiting delegation of the GDR Liberal Democratic Party led by Dr Manfred Gerlach, president of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of State and member of the Presidium of the National Council of the National Front of the GDR.

The Vietnamese vice president was assisted by Nghiem Xuan Yem, general secretary of the Vietnam Democratic Party. Also present was GDR Ambassador to Vietnam Dieter Doering.

Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho hailed the GDR people's outstanding achievements in socialist construction and national defence. He thanked them for their heartfelt support and assistance, which, he said, included the contribution of the Liberal Democratic Party to the Vietnamese people's patriotic war in the past and national construction at present. He also expressed the wish for constant development of friendship and fraternal cooperation between Vietnam and the GDR. The reception took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The GDR guests were received on the same day by Hoang Quoc Viet, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front; members of the front's Presidium; and representatives of mass organisations.

OVERSEAS VIETNAMESE DELEGATIONS RETURN FOR VISIT

OW140418Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 Mar 78 OW

[Text] At the invitation of the party Central Committee Department of Overseas Vietnamese, a delegation of the association of Vietnamese nationals directing their thoughts toward their native land from New Zealand, headed by brother Pham Quang Tuan; a delegation of the Vietnamese nations solidarity association from Australia, headed by brother Nguyen Pham Diem; and a delegation of the Vietnamese nations federation from Japan, headed by brother Le Van Tam, recently returned to their homeland for visits.

These delegations of Vietnamese nationals called on Premier Pham Van Dong. Comrade Xuan Thuy, secretary of the party Central Committee and member of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, cordially received the delegates. Minister Tran Quang Huy, member of the party Central Committee and head of the party Central Committee Overseas Vietnamese Department, received and had a cordial talk with them on the situation and tasks in our country in the new stage of revolution. He expressed the hope that in the future, as they add to their past achievements, the solidarity organizations of Vietnamese nationals directing their thoughts toward the fatherland will expand and be increasingly strengthened and will make more positive contributions to building Vietnam into a prosperous and happy country.

During their stay in Vietnam, the delegates of Vietnamese nationals from New Zealand, Australia and Japan paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum. They had contacts with many scientific, technical and public health agencies and colleges and visited mass organizations. They visited President Ho's native village, Quynh Luu district in Nghe Tinh Province, Dinh Cong village in Thanh Hoa Province, and a number of areas in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

NHAN DAN URGES FULL USE OF DOMESTIC RAW MATERIALS, SUPPLIES

BK140929Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 Mar 78 BK

[NHAN DAN 14 March editorial: "Make the Fullest Use of Domestic Raw Materials and Supplies"]

[Text] Procurement of raw materials and supplies is a problem of primary concern for all industrial production sectors. Only by maintaining a steady source of raw materials and supplies can we take initiatives in implementing state plans. Such a steady source can be primarily insured not by foreign aid, but by domestic efforts. For this reason, it is important to bring into full play our sense of self-reliance and make the best use of all domestic raw materials and supplies.

The resolution of the third party Central Committee plenum pointed out: All localities, all agricultural, forestry and fishing enterprises and all military production units must exploit and put to the fullest use all sources of raw materials and supplies in order to produce as large a volume of consumer goods as possible and to prevent shortages of staple commodities.

For industrial production in general and for the production of consumer and export goods in particular, the most important raw materials are those derived from agriculture, forestry and fishing. However, these fairly abundant and diversified sources of raw materials have been only superficially exploited. Although the area and output of industrial crops have constantly increased with each passing year, only 50 to 60 percent--much too small a portion--of their products are being used.

Animal husbandry products have not yet become a notable source of raw materials. Only 30 to 35 percent of cowhides and buffalo hides and 2 to 3 percent of pigskins are being collected, purchased and utilized. The amount of marine products collected and purchased represents just 50 percent of the total output of the fishing industry. Meanwhile, no more than 30 or 40 percent of the country's annual timber output is actually being used.

Therefore, in order to make the fullest use of domestic raw materials, the most important thing for us to do, while striving to develop cultivation, animal husbandry, forestry and fishing with a view to actively creating new sources of domestic raw materials, is to do everything possible to insure a fuller use of the products turned out by the agricultural, forestry and fishing sectors and to collect and purchase 80 to 90 percent of their total output.

Surplus materials currently lying unused in various factories and warehouses represent another important source of raw materials. The stocks of raw materials and supplies throughout the country are by no means inconsiderable. Our present stock of metals, if satisfactorily exploited and fully used, can meet our demands for aluminum, steel and copper in 1978.

In order to make the best possible use of all surplus raw materials and supplies, all sectors and establishments should inventory their stocks in a truly satisfactory manner with a view to accurately assessing types, quality and quantities. By means of suitable economic informational procedures, they should report their stocks and recommend to what use they should be put. At the same time they must seriously execute all orders from the higher echelons concerning the transfer of supplies, or directly distribute supplies among various units.

Secondary raw materials, waste materials and discarded products constitute yet another substantial source of supplies which can be collected and put to the fullest use. Aside from being economically profitable, the use of waste materials in production also helps increase the sources of raw materials, cut production costs and promote environmental protection measures.

In 1977 Hanoi made excellent use of nearly 10,000 tons of waste materials to produce consumer goods at a production cost 10 to 30 percent below normal. The movements to retrieve waste cotton, discarded paper, scrap iron, and so forth in various industrial sectors have obtained initial results. It is necessary to use various organizational formats and policies to both encourage and compel all economic units to carry out this task even more satisfactorily.

Exploiting and putting domestic raw materials and supplies to the best use is not only an immediate, urgent economic measure but also an important long-term policy aimed at developing production. Making the fullest use of domestic manpower and conditions to create new sources of raw materials and supplies for our own use is to actively achieve a balanced supply of raw materials and to contribute to insuring the general balance in the national economy.

EDITORIAL ON IMPORTANCE OF VEGETABLES, SUBSIDIARY FOOD CROPS

BK140620Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 Mar 78 BK

[NHAN DAN 13 March editorial: "Pay More Attention to Vegetable and Subsidiary Food Crops"]

[Text] The production of vegetables and subsidiary food crops in various provinces is more satisfactory than in the past. Although we failed to fulfill plan norms last year, the area devoted to subsidiary food crops was more than 1 million hectares--which represented an increase of 40 percent over the previous years--and the area devoted to green vegetables and beans increased by 11 percent. Although rice production has declined in many regions, the people's lives have met with less difficulties because of the increase in vegetables and subsidiary food crops and of the processing of part of the subsidiary food crop.

The cultivation of subsidiary food crops has been stepped up this year. In early March, the area on which subsidiary food crops were grown surpassed that in the same period last year by 60,000 hectares and the area on which green vegetables and beans were grown exceeded that in the same period last year by 20,000 hectares. Nevertheless, these cultivated areas still fall short of the planned area and the season which favors the growing of many types of crops is drawing to a close.

In the Red River delta, only 38 percent of the area slated for corn has been cultivated, 91.6 percent of the area reserved for sweet potatoes has been cultivated and less than 20 percent of the area set aside for cassava has been cultivated.

Difficulties have arisen from the failure to fully understand the necessity of cultivating both rice and subsidiary food crops in order to solve the grain problem. The production of subsidiary food crops and the efforts to bring their ratio to between 30 and 40 percent of the total farm output are still hampered by numerous difficulties which, if not rapidly overcome, will make it hard to fulfill this year's plan and those for the coming years.

Our country's deltas are narrow and there still exist large areas of hillsides where dry cultivation is practiced. On the other hand, our population is rapidly increasing. Nationwide, only a little more than 1.6 million hectares have been grown with the winter-spring rice, only about 3 million hectares with 10th-month rice and only a few hundred thousand hectares with summer rice. The average output has not yet exceeded 2.5 tons per hectare. The total paddy output in 1976 was the highest ever, but came only to 12 million tons.

We are striving to carry out intensive cultivation to the highest degree possible by concentrating on the experiences gained by advanced cooperatives; but it is not easy to achieve balanced output. Rice still constitutes the bulk of the total grain output and is still the most important crop. However, the fact that we have rice does not enable us to solve the grain problem. It is, therefore, extremely important to increase subsidiary food crop production, because we can solve the primary problem of subsistence and of national construction and defense--that is, the grain problem--only by closely combining rice with subsidiary food crops and by simultaneously expanding the cultivated area and practicing intensive cultivation, which must be considered the principal method.

Why has subsidiary food crop production not been steadily boosted? Is it because people neglect the cultivation of potatoes and cassava whenever they obtain a bumper rice crop, because they do not like to eat subsidiary foods or because the subsidiary food crop areas have not yet been organizationally stabilized or have failed to adopt specific measures and realistic policies? The truth is that many specific problems have not yet been satisfactorily and simultaneously solved as far as production, processing, transportation and preservation are concerned. Obviously, if specific and effective measures are not taken this year, it will be difficult to fulfill the plan in either area or output. This year the cultivated area and output must increase by 44 percent and 15 percent respectively over last year. At the same time, preparations must be made to create conditions to develop production in the forthcoming years.

What measures should be taken to develop the cultivation of cassava, sweet potato and kaoliang in the provinces of the mountainous regions, the midlands of North Vietnam, Region 4 and the fifth region; to rapidly expand the corn, cassava and kaoliang areas in the provinces of eastern Nam Bo and Tay Nguyen; and to increase the kaoliang, corn and sweet potato areas in the provinces of Nam Bo?

The cultivation of potatoes has been developed to some extent but not yet steadily and, therefore, needs further expansion. Cassava is the most important subsidiary food crop but is being beset with the most difficulties concerning zoning, concentrated and intensive cultivation, harvesting, processing, preserving and transportation. Certain provinces which grew cassava intensively last year have now failed to harvest and process cassava tubers in time and, consequently, are unable to grow a new cassava crop. If the cassava area diminishes, it will greatly affect the total farm output. We hope that the above-mentioned problems will be solved in time.

SOUTHERN PROVINCES REMINDED OF SUMMER-FALL RICE TASKS

BK140637Y Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 12 Mar 78 BK

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture reminds 15 southern provinces and cities from Thuan Hai to Minh Hai to actively make comprehensive preparations to satisfactorily carry out the summer-fall crop production plan, including the rice, subsidiary food crops and industrial crops, in order to achieve comprehensive success.

The 1978 summer-fall rice is facing unfavorable weather conditions. Sources of water are scarce, the water level is low, and salt water has penetrated the fields more deeply than in past years. Therefore, it is necessary promptly and actively to determine the areas where the summer-fall rice will be grown and use this as a basis for carrying out the most positive measures to achieve all three objectives, namely area, schedule and yield.

In determining the areas for the cultivation of the 1978 summer-fall rice, it is first necessary to determine the potentials in terms of water. On the basis of actively creating conditions to solve the water problem, we must not advocate cultivating the summer-fall rice in areas with insufficient water. We must use the determination of areas to grow the summer-fall rice and the classification of areas as a basis in order to set forth appropriate measures to carry out our agricultural activities. It is necessary to determine the summer-fall rice crop schedule and the ways to carry out crop rotation and multicropping in each area.

In certain areas, such as the (No Cu) rice zone, which have sources of fresh water but which are frequently flooded at the end of each crop season, it is necessary to make utmost efforts to sow seeds or transplant in April or at the latest early in May. In the areas which have sources of fresh water but which are not flooded at an early date, it is also necessary to complete the transplanting of seedlings or to transplant the summer-fall rice in April or at the latest by 15 May. In areas which must rely on rainfall, it is necessary to carry this out in May or at the latest by early June. In areas where there are early and heavy rains, it is necessary to carry this out when there is sufficient fresh water. In high areas which are short of water in the dry season, if we grow summer-fall rice there, we must complete that crop season at an early date in order to insure that the 10th-month rice crop is not affected by drought at the end of its season.

It is necessary to have sufficient seeds to fulfill the summer-fall rice development plan, to secure reserve seeds, and to pay attention to providing substitutes for rice varieties which are frequently affected by insects and diseases and in particular for rice varieties which are frequently ravaged by brown flies.

This year, the plan for the development of subsidiary food crops and short term industrial crops in the summer-fall agricultural season is very comprehensive. It is necessary to determine key areas for the cultivation of each type of subsidiary food crop, main industrial crop, and in particular kaoliang, corn and manioc. In each area, it is necessary to clearly determine the crop cultivation pattern, the crop rotation and multicropping system, schedules and other technical measures. The agricultural offices and services, together with the water conservancy offices and services and the sectors concerned, must determine specific measures for each zone and the production guidelines, consolidate guidance organizations, and so forth. On the basis of the actual situation, the agricultural offices and services must concentrate on providing specific, close guidance for each zone, clearly determine the production areas as well as their needs, and emphasize key areas in order to concentrate efforts to meet set requirements.

In each production area it is necessary to clearly determine measures to strictly implement production plans. On the basis of the set schedules, the offices and services must establish monthly guidance schedules for each zone. It is necessary to consolidate and strengthen the organizations in charge of managing the agricultural sector in districts, villages and hamlets and in particular in the zones for the cultivation of high-yield rice varieties and in the key zones for the intensive cultivation of subsidiary food crops and industrial crops.

WATER CONSERVANCY MINISTRY LAUNCHES EMULATION MOVEMENT IN NORTH

BK131634Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 12 Mar 78 BK

[Text] On 9 and 10 March the Ministry of Water Conservancy held a conference in Hai Hung Province to launch a concerted emulation movement among the farmland water conservancy managerial corporations in the northern provinces to accelerate economic and technical management in order to increase the efficiency of farmland water conservancy projects to support intensive cultivation.

In the past year cadres, workers and cooperative members in charge of the farmland water conservancy management in the north have emulated in controlling the operation, exploitation and protection of farmland water conservancy projects to further improve them and increase their efficiency in support of intensive cultivation.

Even though the 1977-1978 winter-spring crop season suffered from a low water level in rivers and reservoirs, thanks to the good management of irrigation projects and satisfactory control of the water supply, the northern provinces and cities have received enough water for plowing, harrowing, sowing and transplanting the spring rice. They are now striving to supply water to the rice plants and expand the area which has been irrigated according to scientific methods.

Since early 1978 the Ministry of Water Conservancy has launched a concerted emulation movement to carry out a three-pronged "attack," including the important attack on managerial work. Carrying out this guideline, the farmland water conservancy managerial corporations have continued to increase their control of water resources; the implementation of regulations concerning the operation of irrigation systems; the expansion of the area irrigated according to scientific methods; the control of waterlogging and draught; the improvement of project management; and the satisfactory implementation of rules and regulations, the managerial system and the law concerning the protection of projects. They have also increased their daily supervision in order to increase labor productivity, economize on supplies and improve the people's lives.

Carrying out this emulation movement, each provincial water conservancy service will build a district farmland water conservancy station, a farmland water conservancy group and a typical pump station. These services will satisfactorily organize a movement to study and compete with advanced units and will motivate the workers to develop initiatives in order to more satisfactorily manage and exploit farmland water conservancy projects to accelerate agricultural and forestry production.

BRIEFS

ART TROUPE RETURNS--Hanoi, 8 Mar--The 50-member art troupe "Bong Sen" (lotus) of Ho Chi Minh City yesterday returned from a tour of India and Sri Lanka. During 3 weeks the troupe gave performances to tens of thousands of spectators. [Excerpt] [Hanoi VNA in English 1507 GMT 8 Mar 78 OW]

CINEMATOGRAPHY EXHIBITION--Hanoi, 12 Mar--An exhibition opened here this morning by the Vietnam Cinema Workers Association marking the 25th anniversary of the Vietnamese cinema created by a decree signed by President Ho Chi Minh on 15 March 1953. Present at the inauguration were Nguyen Van Hieu, and Ha Xuan Truong, minister and vice minister of culture and information. Among the more than 250 exhibits are a photograph taken of Decree 147 signed by the late president at the Viet Bac revolutionary base on 15 March 1953, the movie camera used by Nguyen Ken who fell during a U.S. air raid on 12 May 1967, and the many orders and medals and international prizes won by the Vietnamese Cinematography Service. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1526 GMT 12 Mar 78 OW]

DPRK-BUILT SCHOOL--Hanoi, 11 Mar--A kindergarten built here with the assistance of the Korean Democratic Women's Union was inaugurated this morning. Present on that occasion were Le Thi Xuyen, vice president of the Vietnam Women's Union, DPRK Ambassador Kim Sang-chun, and representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Foreign Trade Ministry, the Vietnam-Korea Friendship Association, the Hanoi people's committee and the Korean experts who had helped build the project. Le Thi Xuyen warmly thanked the Korean Democratic Women's Union for its assistance and voiced Vietnam's strong support for the Korean people's struggle for the peaceful, sovereign reunification of their country. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1447 GMT 11 Mar 78 OW]

PHOTO EXHIBITION ON BULGARIA--Hanoi, 11 Mar--A photo exhibition on Bulgaria opened here today under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Information to mark the centenary of Bulgaria's liberation from the Ottoman Empire. Present at the inauguration were Le Thanh Cong, vice minister of culture and information, and representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Commission for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. Also present were Bulgarian Ambassador Stoyan Konstantinov and other members of the diplomatic corps. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT 11 Mar 78 OW]

RIVER TRANSPORT CONFERENCE--The riverine communications and transportation sector held a conference from 27 February to 1 March in Ho Chi Minh City. Attending the conference were 320 representatives from provinces, cities and central and local organs, including Minister of Communications and Transportation Phan Trong Tue. The conference set forth the following 1978 riverine sector tasks: Increase the riverine transportation means to serve the production and distribution of goods throughout the country; strive to satisfactorily serve people and transport 11.5 million tons of goods in the south in 1978; build docks in many localities in the south and equip them with tools to load and unload goods; build a riverine port in each district in southern provinces and cities; dredge and clear waterways from Ha Tien to Ho Chi Minh City; build transportation stations along the rivers of the south; open new waterways, including the An Giang-Ho Chi Minh City waterway; build some passenger ferries; reorganize the transportation network; train motorboat captains; improve the skill of pilots, technicians and workers; strive to stop the theft of goods and fuel; and increase the protection of state property and transportation means. [Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 2 Mar 78 BK]

INQUIRY INTO U.S. , AUSTRALIAN SECURITY OPERATIONS SOUGHT

OW101551Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Mar 78 OW

[Text] A group calling itself "Concerned Citizens for Alice Springs" today called for an inquiry into the operations of both Australian and American security services in the central Australian town.

The call follows allegations in the Senate yesterday that an Australian Defense Department security officer from the joint defense base at Pine Gap in Alice Springs was involved in ASIO [Australian Security Intelligence Organization] and CIA activities. Senator Keeffe of Queensland said the officer, Mr (Peter Castleton), was keeping dossiers and photographs on Alice Springs residents opposed to American installations in central Australia. A member of the concerned citizens group, Mr (John Reaves), said today a federal inquiry should establish the extent of security services in Alice Springs, what dossiers were maintained by these services and the content of the dossiers.

PEACOCK CONDEMNS RECENT TERRORIST RAID IN ISRAEL

OW131723Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Australia has deplored the Arab terrorist strike in Israel in which 37 people were killed and 85 others wounded on Saturday.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Peacock said in Canberra that all people of good will must be shocked and saddened by a senseless act which did nothing to advance the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He said it was earnestly hoped that this latest outrage would not be allowed to influence the current peace negotiations which was apparently one of the misguided aims of the terrorists. On behalf of the Australian Government the minister extended his condolences to the Israeli Government and people, to the families of the bereaved and to the wounded.

Jewish students and other groups in Australia have been gathering in silent protest in a number of centers.

ANTHONY REJECTS MULDOON CRITICISM OF JAPAN ON TRADE

OW140613Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] On the eve of his visit to Japan for trade talks Deputy Prime Minister Anthony has dissociated himself from a statement by New Zealand Prime Minister Muldoon, criticizing Japan's trade methods. In a speech at the weekend, Mr Muldoon accused the Japanese of commercial imperialism and blind self-interest. Mr Anthony said today he would not align Australia with Mr Muldoon's remarks.

Mr Anthony also said that he hoped a start could be made on opening up new uranium mines in the Northern Territory during the next 6 months. He said this could mean that Japanese power companies could start receiving Australian yellow cake under new contracts by 1981. Mr Anthony said he would be able to reassure the Japanese that existing uranium contracts would be met following the recent union decision to allow such shipments.

Radio Australia's Canberra office says Mr Anthony will also be trying to persuade the Japanese to keep up their purchases of Australian iron ore and coal, but as Japan's steel industry is in recession he will face hard bargaining.

New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister Talboys arrived in Sydney today for 3 weeks of talks with Australian Government officials. He said he did not think the statement by Prime Minister Muldon about Japanese trading policies would be embarrassing to Australia in its relations with Japan.

UN OFFICIAL ASKS AUSTRALIA, NZ TO INCREASE REFUGEE INTAKE

'Warmly Received' by MacKellar

OW140627Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0615 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Canberra, 14 Mar (AFP)--Australia was today asked to accept 8,000 Indochinese refugees in 1978, double its 1977 intake, by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Paul Hartling. According to government sources, Mr Hartling's recommendation was "warmly received" by Immigration Minister Michael MacKellar, but they pointed out it had yet to be given full cabinet approval.

Mr Hartling, who is on his first trip to Australia, told a National Press Club lunch later that he wanted to congratulate Australia for its contribution so far to the world refugee problem but he said he felt Australia could do more. "The problem of refugees is a global problem and it is an increasing one," Mr Hartling said. "We think that 8,000 Indochinese refugees, twice the number you took last year, is a fair number for Australia. We hope that this might encourage the United States, Canada, and other countries to take more refugees this year.

Rejected by Muldoon

OW131711Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0513 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Wellington, 13 Mar (AFP)--New Zealand will not be admitting more refugees from Southeast Asia "for a while," Prime Minister Robert Muldoon told his weekly press conference today.

He said he had told this to Paul Hartling, United Nations commissioner for refugees, who had talks with him in Wellington last week. Mr Muldoon said New Zealand was now processing 400 refugees and it was not considering opening the door to more. He said he also told Mr Hartling New Zealand would not be increasing its financial contribution to the United Nations refugee fund this year because of the current economic situation.

KILLEN ANNOUNCES AIR EXERCISES WITH MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE

OW100147Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Australian F-111 jet fighters will fly to Malaysia next week for exercises with the air forces of Malaysia and Singapore.

Defense Minister Killen announced today that six F-111-C's would go from Amberley base in Queensland for the exercises next Wednesday and Thursday. They would operate from Butterworth base in Malaysia, and equipment and ground crew support would be flown from Australia by Hercules transports.

Mr Killen said Australian Mirage fighters based at Butterworth would also take part in the exercise.

SUDOMO WARNS AGAINST DISTURBANCES DURING MPR SESSION

BK101034Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 10 Mar 78 BK

[Text] The government is going to put everything it has at stake to insure that the People's Consultative Assembly [MPR] plenary session will proceed in an orderly and peaceful way. The government is not going to take any risks and will take stern measures against disturbances by anybody.

Chief of Staff of the Security and Order Restoration Command [Kopkamtib] Admiral Sudomo made these remarks in Jakarta today, reiterating Kopkamtib's stand on the MPR plenary session opening in Jakarta tomorrow. He said that as the MPR plenary session approached, the political temperature rose accordingly. There were indications of growing activities in society--on and off university campuses--in several regions. The activities concerned included display of posters and circulation of illegal leaflets and pamphlets which attacked and hurt the prestige of government officials and discredited the government. The illegal pamphlets also sought to instigate, slander, humiliate and incite groups of different religious beliefs and ethnic affiliations or government agencies and the people against each other, as the Indonesian Communist Party did in the past.

Admiral Sudomo stressed those activities were in gross violation of the law. They in fact constituted an attempt to obstruct and even make the MPR plenary session fail. Such activities are classified as acts of subversion, he said. Sudomo called on the people to remain vigilant against all sorts of rumors which may arouse further apprehension among the people. He called on the people not to fall easy prey to activities on the part of a handful of extremists and subversives and not be misled into engaging in activities which violate the law.

Sudomo told civilians in the armed forces that if their dependents had taken part in extremist activities by college and high school students, this would be recorded in their personnel files for subsequent administrative action. Sudomo further said that action taken by the government against extremists among college students was not meant to suppress college student movements in exercising the right of social control or as a moral force, so long as it was conducted according to Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. The exercise of the right of social control must not be allowed to create tensions, while a movement intended as a moral force must not be turned into open political activities. In exercising freedom of expression, one must observe legal and moral norms, Sudomo said.

Meanwhile, the commanding officer of the 5th Jakarta Military Region Command, Maj Gen Norman Sasono, replying to press questions confirmed that raids were recently carried out at entrances to Jakarta. He said this was done to safeguard the MPR plenary session opening tomorrow and prevent the shipment of firearms, (?suspected) persons, posters and pamphlets into Jakarta.

In outlining Kopkamtib's stand, besides the 5th Jakarta Military Region commander, Admiral Sudomo was accompanied by 2d Defense Territorial Commander Lt Gen Widjojo Sujono.

Jakarta Reported 'Tense'

BK111328Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1318 GMT 11 Mar 78 BK

[Excerpt] Jakarta, 11 Mar (AFP)--Tension gripped the Indonesian capital today as the national congress began its session to almost certainly reelect President Suharto to a third 5-year term in office.

Most of the shops in Jakarta's Chinese business areas remained closed throughout the day for fear of student-sparked demonstrations as Suharto delivered his 3-hour account of his past policies to the congress. Reports of flare-ups of trouble in several areas of the city appeared to justify such fears. At the central bus station in the heart of Jakarta, high school students and youths were reported to have staged a rally early in the day, forcing troops to intervene to prevent public disorders and the upsetting of the city's public transportation schedule. Troops in battle dress and fully armed were later seen surrounding two high schools in the same area but there was no official confirmation of arrests.

In the eastern parts of the city, some 300 youths were reported to have attempted to march on the University of Indonesia campus in central Jakarta but were prevented from doing so by the troops. The University of Indonesia, a center of student dissent, remained closed and locked on the orders of campus officials to prevent the grounds from being used for rallies.

Along the main traffic arteries, meanwhile, huge jams occurred as troops and police closed street sections in several areas.

The feeling of tension in this city of about 6 million was heightened by the unusually large numbers of pedestrians walking or standing along the main streets, apparently because the city bus system was upset by the extensive security precautions.

Military To Shoot Rioters on Spot

BK131430Y Singapore Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 13 Mar 78 BK

[Text] In Jakarta the military has issued a strict order to shoot on the spot anybody taking part in rioting, looting or other disturbances during the current national congress session. The city military garrison commander, General Norman Sasono, said he had information that high school students are planning to launch a big demonstration. In preparation for any outbreak of violence, strict security measures had been implemented in the city.

Meanwhile, it was reported that student leaders from universities in Bandung, Bogor and Yogyakarta, now meeting in Jakarta, had decided to call off their protest for the duration of the deliberations on the opening of the people's congress. They also issued an appeal to high school students to refrain from any agitational agitation. Following this appeal, only minor incidents were reported in Jakarta today.

EDUCATION MINISTRY DENIES PROFESSOR DIED IN DETENTION

BK101501Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1426 GMT 10 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, 10 Mar (AFP)--The Indonesian Education Ministry has denied rumours that a popular professor, Arif Rachman, third assistant to the director of the state training teachers college in Jakarta, had died in detention.

A statement issued Thursday by the Education Ministry concerning Arif Rachman was the second official denial in 24 hours that some people had recently died in detention or in clashes with troops on campuses.

The Education Ministry statement said that Arif Rachman, detained since the crackdown on students in January, was safe and sound. The teachers college's rector, Dr Winarno Surachmad, called on him Wednesday and found his "former" assistant in good health, the statement added.

The statement said that Arif Rachman, also a well-known TV English-language lecturer before the crackdown, told the rector he was doing bodily exercises every morning to keep himself in good shape.

Arif Rachman "even" asked the rector to pass a message to the students not to be provoked by any rumours and to concentrate on their studies, according to the statement.

The very day the rector was visiting Arif Rachman in jail, a military spokesman, Brigadier General Darjono, also warned the Indonesian people against "falling an easy prey to rumours".

Brig. Gen. Darjono, who is the chief of the security and defense information centre, asserted there was no death among people arrested and detained during the past few weeks. Brig Gen. Darjono denied there were "many victims" among students who clashed with troops especially in Yogyakarta, Bandung and Jakarta. He advised people in doubt about arrested citizens to contact the local security commander.

UNITED DEVELOPMENT FACTION OBJECTS TO RELATIONS WITH PRC

BK140835Y Jakarta ANTARA in English 0708 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, 14 March (ANTARA)--The Persatuan Pembangunan (United Development) faction in the Indonesian People's Consultative Congress (MPR) does not feel the need for the government to resume diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China at the present moment.

Amin Iskandar, a member of the faction's executive board, said here Monday in answer to a press question that the faction prefers to maintain the present existing situation. "We still have a lot of problems involving Chinese at home which have remained unsettled", Amin Iskandar reiterated.

He added that attempts by Chinese abroad to make illegal entry into Indonesia lately "have strengthened our stance that the resumption of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and people's China is unnecessary."

"Indonesia will emerge as the strongest country in Asia within the next 10 years, not people's China", Amin Iskandar assured. He said Indonesia has greater potentialities to become a stronger state in Asia if it is well-managed.

MALAYSIA

USSR'S FIRYUBIN ARRIVES IN KUALA LUMPUR ON 4-DAY VISIT

BK140945Y Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Deputy Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs N.P. Firybin arrived in Kuala Lumpur last night for a 4-day visit. He was accompanied by the deputy head of the Southeast Asian Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, U.I. Kuznetsov.

Mr Firyubin will call on Datuk Hussein bin Onn and have talks with Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen bin Ismail on bilateral and international questions of common interest.

Talks with Rithauddeen

BK140953Y Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0630 GMT 14 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Malaysia plans to send a trade delegation to Moscow this year to promote trade between the two countries, Minister of Foreign Affairs Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen bin Ismail told newsmen after talks with visiting Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs N.P. Firyubin at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kuala Lumpur today.

Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said that during the 1 and a half hour meeting he stressed that ASEAN was not a military organization and was a social and economic organization and was a social and economic organization to promote regional cooperation toward peace, stability and neutrality in the region. Malaysia will reject all attempts to make this organization become a military one.

The Soviet minister was also briefed on ASEAN industrial projects and on the concept of a zone of peace and neutrality in Southeast Asia. Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said Malaysia hopes that more dialogs and talks could be held with those countries which still do not show favorable response to this concept.

Mr N.P. Firybin arrived last night for a 3-day visit to Malaysia to renew contacts and have talks with Malaysian leaders. [Hong Kong AFP in English at 0647 GMT on 14 March reports that after his talks with Foreign Minister Rithauddeen, Firyubin paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Hussein bin Onn at his office. They were reported to have exchanged views on international developments, "with special reference to the tension along the Cambodia-Vietnam border, according to informed sources. No official statement was available after the meeting."]

OFFICIAL CONCERN OVER DISPOSAL OF U.S. TIN STOCKPILE

BK131452Y Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 13 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Malaysia will watch today closely how America will dispose of 45,000 tons of tin from its stockpile. Minister of Primary Industries Datuk Amar Haji Abdul Taib bin Mahmud said this today.

He hoped the release from the U.S. tin stockpile would not dampen the market. In considering disposal of the stockpile, he also hoped the U.S. would take into account the projection made by the International Tin Council [ITC] panel.

Datuk Amar Taib said this was discussed at his meeting with the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Far East and Pacific affairs in Kuala Lumpur this afternoon.

He said in analysing the supply and demand of tin over the next 10 years, the ITC panel had noted a deficit of an average of 12,000 tons of tin a year. He warned that any dampening effect on the tin market would have serious impact on the producer countries.

Datuk Amar Taib said the U.S. had given an assurance that it would consult the ITC on the method of releasing tin from the stockpile.

CONCORDE IMPACT ON AIR POLLUTION UNDER SCRUTINY

BK101600Y Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Mar 78 BK

[Text] Malaysia is making a thorough study of reports on environmental pollution caused by supersonic airliners before arriving at the final decision on the Concorde issue.

Minister of Science, Technology and Environment Tan Sri Datuk Ong Kee Hui said in Kuching today that information received from Europe and America continued to speak of the adverse effect on the environment as a result of supersonic flights. India too had seen the danger of air pollution through Concorde flights and has taken remedial measures.

Tan Sri Ong said his ministry was in the process of tightening and drafting new regulations to control air, water and noise pollution.

BRIEFS

AERIAL COASTLINE SURVEILLANCE--Kuala Lumpur, 6 Mar--Police helicopters equipped with cameras are to be introduced soon to undertake aerial surveillance of the Malaysian coastline. The helicopters will supplement the efforts of the Royal Malaysian Navy [RMN] and the marine police in preventing foreign trawlers from entering Malaysian waters. Official sources here said the plan to launch a two-pronged attack against foreign trawlers was because of growing government concern over the activities of these vessels. The income of local fishermen is said to have been affected considerably by these trawlers. Details as to how many such helicopters are to be deployed for this purpose were not available. The sources, however, said that the RMN and the marine police are unable to cope with the scores of foreign trawlers crossing into Malaysian fishing grounds daily. [Hong Kong AFP in English 0640 GMT 6 Mar 78 BK]

SATELLITE BOUNDARY SURVEY--The Sarawak assistant minister in the chief minister's office said on 8 March that a satellite observation method will be used in the current demarcation and survey of the Malaysia-Indonesia international boundary, which will shorten the work to 9 months instead of the 10 years by conventional land surveying methods. The satellite observation method will cost Malaysia approximately 2.5 million ringgit. Since the survey started in September 1975, 264 kilometers of the boundary between Sarawak and West Kalimantan has been covered. Another 1,200 kilometers remains to be covered. [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0630 GMT 8 Mar 78 BK]

SELANGOR TIN DEPOSITS--Chief Minister of Selangor Datuk Hormat Bin Rafei said on 7 March that the tin mining industry at Dingkil was the biggest in the world. It has been set up by the state government with capital of approximately 40 million ringgit. The Selangor Government has discovered another 30,000 acres containing rich tin deposits, according to the chief minister. [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Mar 78 BK]

VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN CONTINUES OFFICIAL VISIT

Cites Common 'Antihegemonism' Struggle

OW131604Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1558 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Manila, 13 Mar (AFP)--Chinese Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien said tonight China and the Philippines were joined in a common struggle to defeat "economic hegemonism" and oppose big-power manipulation of the United Nations.

Mr Li was speaking at a formal banquet tendered in his honor by Foreign Secretary Carlos P. Romulo at the luxurious Philippine Plaza Hotel on the edge of Manila Bay. Replying to a toast from Mr Romulo, the vice-premier congratulated the Filipino people for their success in eliminating the "colonial cultural influence" in the Philippines and resuscitating their own cultural heritage. "All these have left a deep impression on us," Mr Li said.

He said that since the establishment of formal diplomatic relations in 1975, China and the Philippines had been engaged in a joint effort to develop their bilateral ties. Today, Mr Li said, they were actively cooperating on major international issues, specially in the struggle to defend the "vital interests of the Third World countries, to combat economic hegemonism, review and revise the United Nations Charter, and oppose the manipulation of the United Nations by the big powers."

Deviating slightly from the text of his prepared speech, Mr Romulo on his part said he was gratified by the "positive attitude" shown by Mr Li towards the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), to which the Philippines belongs. He said Mr Li's expression of support for the association "is an expression of faith in the objectives of ASEAN."

Mr Romulo was referring to Mr Li's remarks at a state dinner given in his honor by President Ferdinand Marcos last night when the vice-premier expressed support of ASEAN and its objectives, including the proposed establishment of a neutral zone in the region.

Huang, Romulo Sign Scientific Pact

OW141012Y Malolos International Service in English 0710 GMT 14 Mar 78 OW

[Excerpt] The Philippines and the People's Republic of China today signed an agreement on technical and scientific cooperation. The agreement was concluded on the 3rd day today of the 5-day official visit of Chinese Vice Premier Li Hsien-nien, [words indistinct] agreement were signed by Philippine Foreign Secretary Carlos Romulo and Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua. The signing took place on board the presidential yacht which took President Ferdinand Marcos as well as Vice Premier Li and his party to Bataan Peninsula.

The agreement was prompted by the desire of the Philippines and China to exchange relevant technical information needed by the two countries in the economic field. The agreement provides for the exchange of technologists, scientists and other professionals.

Also today President Marcos and Vice Premier Li Hsien-nien held formal talks on subjects of mutual interest to the two countries. Details of that discussion are expected to be released before the end of the Chinese vice premier's visit.

Meantime the Philippines has offered to send its agricultural scientists to China for an exchange of information (?on) agricultural technology.

Press Welcomes Visit

OW120400Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0343 GMT 12 Mar 78 OW

[Excerpt] Manila, 12 Mar (AFP)--The Philippines' three biggest English-language dailies today welcomed the visit of China's Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien, who is arriving here this afternoon, and said it would further strengthen the ties between the two Asian nations.

The newspaper PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in an editorial said the visit "reaffirms the mutual commitment of the people's China and the Philippines to a policy of cooperation and friendship and a goal of strengthening the unity and relations among Third World countries and their peoples."

Recalling that the links between the Filipino and Chinese peoples date back to the 7th century, the EXPRESS added: "Today, while the social (?systems) of China and the Philippines still differ, the doors of understanding and cooperation have been opened and relations consolidated on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

"This visit by the vice-premier is certain to add vigor to the rapid growth of economic and cultural ties, as well as deepening the understanding and affinity between the two Asian nations."

Another daily, THE BULLETIN TODAY, editorially said that "it is not merely the position in the government of Mr Li that gives importance to his visit. Through the years, the vice-premier is the bedrock of the stability of China."

The TIMES JOURNAL on its part said the "extraordinarily warm welcome" Mr Li will get on his arrival here "will be a measure of the significance of his visit, as well as of the close ties that bind the Philippines and China."

The three dailies gave prominent frontpage display to the news of Mr Li's visit, with the EXPRESS reporting it under an eight-column banner headline accompanied by a color picture of the vice-premier.

NCNA Reportage

For NCNA reportage on Chinese Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien's visit the Philippines, see the International Affairs section of the 13 March and subsequent issues of the People's Republic of China DAILY REPORT.

SOVIET TRADE OFFICIALS EXPLORING INVESTMENT IN CEBU

OW131717Y Malolos International Service in English 0710 GMT 13 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Three representatives from the Soviet Union's Ministry of Trade are in Cebu City to explore investment areas. The Soviet trade officials are also looking into investment possibilities in the Philippines. The visitors are (Yuriy Choepenov), (Viktor Salminov) and his wife (Valentina Salminov).

MARCOS ORDERS IMPLEMENTATION OF EEC TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

OW081023Y Manila Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 7 Mar 78 OW

[Text] President Marcos has ordered the immediate implementation of the country's international trade agreements on textiles and garments with the European Economic Community--or EEC--and other countries. We will hear more about this from our Malacanang reporter [Bert Asuke]

[Begin recording] Through Letter of Instruction Number 676 the president directed the Department of Trade through undersecretary (Vicente Valdebenyas Jr) to oversee implementation of the agreements and formulate the necessary guidelines. This would insure their proper implementation and effect coordinated efforts in government trade development programs, the president said. He noted the country's several international trade agreements for the export of textiles and garments to other countries, among which are with the United States, Norway and the EEC. He said one way to strengthen social, economic development efforts is through intensified commercial activities locally and abroad.

In his directive the president authorized the Trade Department to collect reasonable fees for the issuance of export quotas, export licenses and other related services in the implementation of its (?task). [end recording]

In the meantime trade between the Philippines and East Germany will also improve this year. An agreement has already been reached whereby each country will purchase assorted goods and products from the other. On the part of the Philippines it will export to East Germany a wide range of processed foods and (?industrial) products worth \$5 million. East Germany in turn will sell to the Philippines such products (?as) [words indistinct], packing and printing and textile machineries and laboratory equipment. Trade Secretary Treadio Quiazon Jr said the reciprocal trade accord is the result of negotiations conducted last month by the two countries.

BRIEFS

DANISH LOAN--The government's program to develop farm systems and improve waterworks today got a big boost with the acquisition of a loan worth about (?50) million pesos from Denmark. Documents on the loan accord were signed for their respective governments by Foreign Secretary Carlos P. Romulo and Danish Ambassador Anthon Christian Karsten. The interest-free loan will be payable in 35 semiannual installments and will be administered by the Department of Finance. [Manila Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 3 Mar 78 OW]

NEW ZEALAND ENVOY--New Zealand has appointed its first woman ambassador to the Philippines. She is Miss Barbara Angus, currently serving as minister in the New Zealand Embassy in Washington. [Excerpt] [Manila Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 6 Mar 78 OW]

ENVOY TO EGYPT--Assistant Press Secretary (Clemente Bigornia) today disclosed that J.V. Cruz resigned as Philippine ambassador to Egypt on the day of his political assignment as spokesman for the government's Kilusang Bagong Lipunan [New Society Movement]. (Bigornia) said President Marcos has accepted Cruz's resignation. [Manila Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Mar 78 OW]

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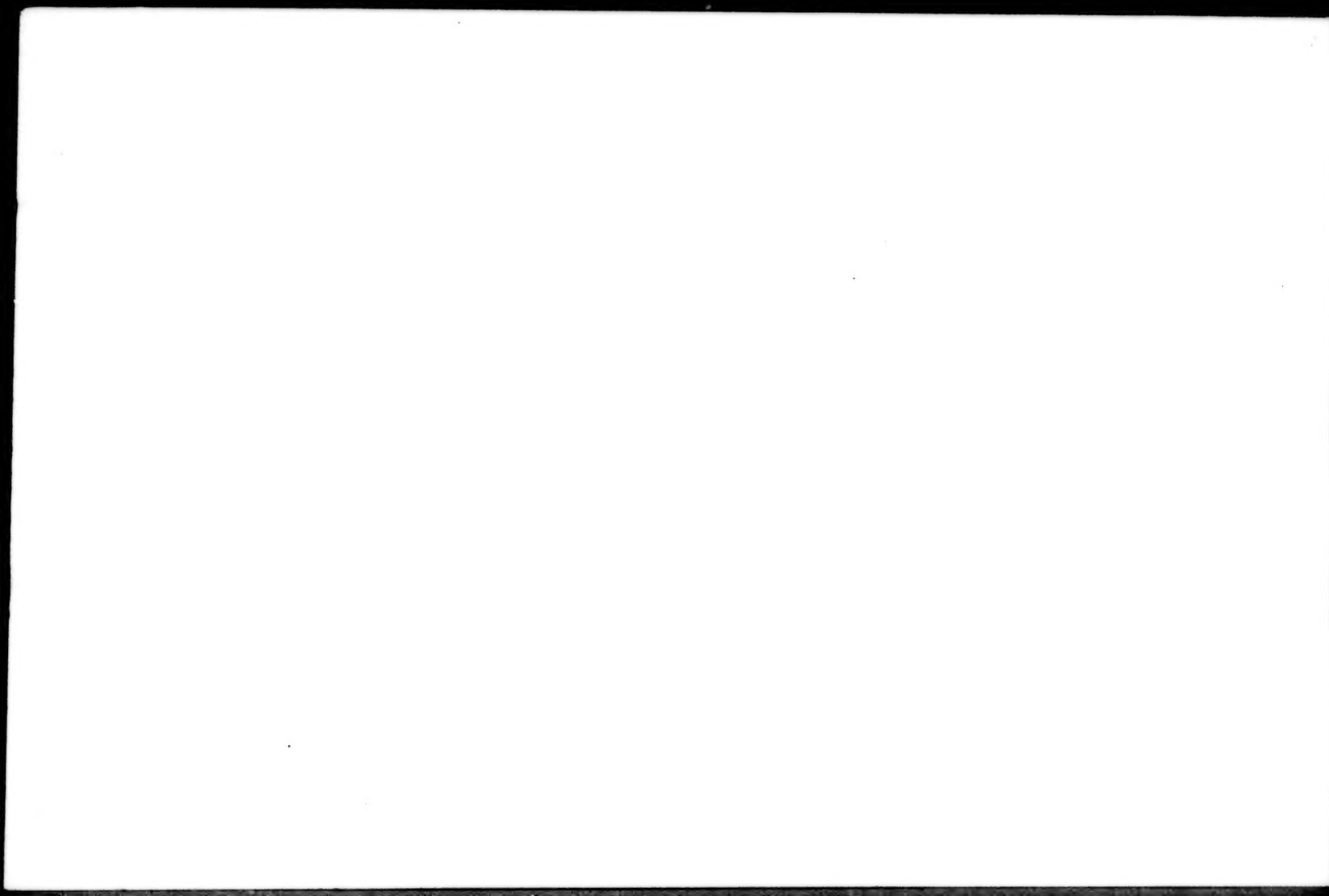
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